



## The Newsletter of the Cleveland Park Historical Society

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## President's Letter

Your Cleveland Park Historical Society has been busy since the last issue of VOICES in October.

Our Architectural Review Committee has reviewed fifteen renovation and construction projects, including the new house on the Rosedale property.

Another committee has focused on the preservation and design plans of the DC government's current and proposed projects: the Zoning rewrite and the DDOT's Connecticut Avenue plan. We have studied the proposals and testified at hearings on provisions which will affect our neighborhood.

Soon, planning for our new library will be underway. We are following the planning process for the new library very closely. (See page 2 for information about a meeting about library plans.)

In cooperation with the DC Historic Preservation Office, we are currently undertaking a project to refine DC's general historic preservation guidelines for Cleveland Park projects, to highlight what makes Cleveland Park special. Nore Winter, our consultant, will give a progress report at the CPHS

Annual Meeting on May 20th. When the Cleveland Park guidelines are complete, the review process for projects in our Historic District should be clearer for all concerned. (Read more about the guidelines project on page 5.)

Thank you all who have renewed for 2014. We especially thank those who have given more substantially than the basic membership contribution. Two years ago we were running a deficit each year. Now we are in a position to finance the guidelines project.

We have been fortunate for the past two years to have Carin Ruff, who improved our record keeping methods, redid our web page, laid out our publications and, as an architectural historian, researched preservation issues and answered many members' questions. Now, as an independent consultant, she is available for house histories and other research projects. Meghan Mulkerin has taken Carin's place as our consultant.

We still need all your support to stay abreast the developments related to preserving the Cleveland Park Historic District.

Best wishes,

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# Construction and Restoration Updates

## Plans for the Cleveland Park Library

The D.C. Public Library (DCPL) is planning either to renovate or raze and rebuild the Cleveland Park Neighborhood Library in the near future. No decision has yet been made by DCPL whether to renovate or rebuild. The Friends of the Cleveland Park Library are working with DCPL to seek input from the community.

All neighbors are invited to attend the Friends' annual meeting on Saturday, March 29 at 10:00am in the first floor meeting room of the library. DCPL's Jennifer Giltrap, Director of Public Services, and Jeff Bonvechio, Director of Capital Projects and Facilities Management, will discuss plans for the library.

## Historic Renovation of Engine Co. 28

by Helen Chamberlin

An important historical community project has concluded with the January 17, 2014 dedication ceremony of Cleveland Park's Engine Co. 28 building. The firefighters and emergency medical personnel have returned and this brings to a close the arduous process of restoring a 1916 firehouse. Just under a century ago, Engine Co. 28 was the first public building constructed in Cleveland Park. Its arrival put the community on the map, opening the doors to a construction boom of housing, schools and small businesses.

Cleveland Park's Engine Co. 28 renovation planning started in earnest in January 2010. The Cleveland Park Citizen's Association (CPCA) and other community leaders worked with DC Fire Emergency Medical Services (DC FEMS) – Property Management Division to begin the lengthy task of preparing the building for renovation. The historic façade of Co. 28 needed to be altered to accommodate 21st-century fire apparatus that are now wider than the original entranceways. Considering the early 1900 architectural plans called for a design to accommodate horse drawn fire vehicles, Co. 28's renovation required much-needed improvements. The Cleveland Park Historical Society (CPHS) worked with the Historic Preservation Office to develop and approve the final plan to widen the stone archways.

DC FEMS issued a construction company bid that combined the renovation of both Engine Co. 28 and Co. 29 in Palisades with the goal of attracting a competitive firm that could manage the size and scope of a large building project. DC firm Consys Construction, Inc. was awarded the contract for both firehouses. The process of widening the stone archway as part of Engine Co. 28's redesign required Consys to construct a steel framework located directly behind the front facade. The new framework now supports the load-bearing wall. A local DC company specializing in stone masonry, Marmara Inc., was hired to

painstakingly remove, cut, and reshape each stone, and then reassemble the new widened archway.

Engine Co. 28 is LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) certified at the gold level (the second highest level of certification), with several environmentally responsible features built into the newly restored structure. A water recovery system captures runoff from the south roof and collects it in a 500-gallon holding tank located beneath the back parking lot. The water collected will be used to clean the station fire trucks and apparatus. A green wall consisting of small plants will cover the entire back of the firehouse and reduce the cooling demands placed on the new HVAC system in the sweltering summer months.

Many best practices can be learned from the renovation of Engine Co. 28. The project should remind community leaders and city officials that efforts on this scale can be achieved through partnerships that ultimately improve the health, safety and well-being of the community residents.

## Cathedral Commons Construction

by Lois Orr

Despite the severe winter weather, the opening date for the new Giant Food Store on Wisconsin Avenue is still projected for October 2014. Construction for the other retail spaces in the mixed use development called Cathedral Commons will not be finished until the end of this calendar year. Cathedral Commons is the two-block area bounded by Macomb Street, Wisconsin Avenue, and Idaho Avenue, which Newark Street cuts into two parcels.

Building out interior space in the Giant structure began at the end of March, and work on the retail space elsewhere in the development will begin late spring. Substantial utility work for the project continues on Idaho Avenue. The work on the water main on Wisconsin Avenue, now underway, will require several months and will be done at night.

Retail tenants signed so far include CVS, Wells Fargo Bank, Sun Trust Bank, Raku Asian Dining, Starbucks, and Barcelona Wine Club. Retail space is still available. In addition to retail and restaurants, the development includes 145 residential rental units: 8 townhouses and 137 apartments (15 studios, 102 one bedroom, 20 two bedroom).

Detailed information on Cathedral Commons progress and issues is available monthly on the local ANC website in the form of minutes from the monthly Cathedral Commons Construction Liaison Committee. The March 2014 meeting was the fourteenth since the establishment of the Management Agreement signed in summer 2012. The ANC website is [anc3c.org](http://anc3c.org).

# Spring Events 2014

## Tree Talk & Community Service at Tregaron

Sunday, April 6th, 1:00 pm

To register, visit [clevelandparkhistoricalsociety.org](http://clevelandparkhistoricalsociety.org)

CPHS and the Tregaron Conservancy are jointly sponsoring a Tree Talk & Community Service Event on Sunday, April 6th at Tregaron.

At 1 p.m., there will be a presentation discussing the trees of Tregaron — their health and wealth — and the many challenges of owning and maintaining a historic woodland garden while restoring a dilapidated forest in the midst of the city. Tregaron Conservancy board members (one of whom is a master arborist) will address the issues and lead a short guided walk.

At 2 p.m., other neighbors and friends will join as we engage in community service projects. Volunteer opportunities include: Invasive plant removal (garlic mustard, English ivy, bamboo, and more), bulb planting (thousands of daffodils and other flowers to plant beside the woodland trails), debris removal, and stream cleanup.

We will meet at the top of Tregaron's north meadow near the Mansion. Walk or drive up the driveway at 3100 Macomb Street and the big, wide open meadow will be on your left. Bring gloves and small tools (trowels, clippers, loppers, etc.), if you have them. The Conservancy will provide extra gloves, equipment, and trash bags, as well as refreshments. Learn fascinating facts and help get the property ready for Tregaron's big Easter Egg hunt on April 19th!

## Kids' Architectural Walking Tour

Saturday, April 12th, 9:30-noon

**SPACE IS LIMITED! To register, visit [clevelandparkhistoricalsociety.org](http://clevelandparkhistoricalsociety.org)**

Does your child know the difference between a gambrel roof and a hipped roof with dormers? Can she point out the turned balustrade, pebble dash stucco, and fan light on the houses on her street? Can she distinguish between symmetrical and asymmetrical designs? Cleveland Park is filled with an abundance of architectural details that make the neighborhood so distinctive.

The Cleveland Park Historical Society in collaboration with the Washington Architectural Foundation presents "Walk with an Architect" for children 8 to 12 years old on Saturday, April 12th from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 Noon. Mary Kay Lanzillotta, FAIA, of Hartman-Cox Architects will share her knowledge of historic buildings as she leads a walking tour of the neighborhood. The tour will begin at National Child Research Center, 3209 Highland Place. After the walking tour, children will return to NCRC and have a chance to express their new understanding and their creativity by building their own structures out of cardboard, construction paper, and architectural samples. Children take home their project and a tour booklet that includes a list of website resources.

## AIA|DC's Architecture Week

April 21st–May 1st

**For more information and a complete schedule, visit [aiadc.com/ArchitectureWeek](http://aiadc.com/ArchitectureWeek)**

Now in its 16th year, Architecture Week celebrates architecture in the nation's capital. Daily public events will shine a spotlight on Washington's architectural culture, including cultural organizations, institutions, neighborhoods and landmarks, as well as AIA|DC's home at District Architecture Center.

Among the many Architecture Week events will be tours of the Scottish Rite Temple, the Kreeger Museum, the Octagon, Hillwood, Peirce Mill, and Dumbarton House, as well as a kids' walking tour of Georgetown.

# Eyes to the Ground

## Cleveland Park's Geologic Foundations

by Abigail Porter

### PAUSE TO THINK

what constitutes the history of Cleveland Park, and you might picture the elegant, simple lines of the Rosedale farmhouse, or the neighborhood's many late nineteenth-century homes. Cleveland Park has another history, however, that has a direct bearing on the neighborhood's look and feel, and continues to affect everything in the neighborhood from engineering and architecture, to drainage and ecology. That other history is Cleveland Park's geologic foundations. This fascinating history might not be obvious to those who live in Cleveland Park, but it is all around once you know where to look.

Cleveland Park Historical Society board member Abigail Porter recently spoke with Tony Fleming, a professional geologist and Cleveland Park native, about Cleveland Park's geology. Mr. Fleming is the author of the modern geological map of the District, and an expert on the area's geology. Following are a few highlights of Cleveland's Park's geological history that are worth seeking out as the warm weather returns.

### WISCONSIN AVENUE

If you stand on the high ground of the National Cathedral on a fine day, you can see the Potomac River far off the distance. It may surprise you, therefore, to learn that Wisconsin Avenue was the channel of the Potomac River 2 to 5 million years ago. At that time, Wisconsin Avenue was the lowest point in the regional landscape – a stunning fact that reveals the depth of erosion that has taken place since then. Evidence of the former river channel can be seen just about anywhere the soil is bare or exposed in a shallow excavation: look for stream-rounded, reddish-tinted gravel and cobbles.

### ROSEDALE

Rosedale occupies an eastward extension of what is known as the Wisconsin Avenue Ridge, and is characterized by extremely gravelly, infertile soil. Exposures of the beach deposit of the Calvert Foundation

can occasionally be seen in the bank along Newark Street, just above 35<sup>th</sup> Street, NW. The Calvert Formation was laid down 10 to 20 million years ago, when a warm, shallow ocean covered the whole area. Look for white quartz pebbles, most of which exhibit the classic disc shapes of pebbles rolled back and forth in the surf.



Ancient river cobbles. Rounded gravel and cobbles in a matrix of red clay are typical of the Potomac's ancient channel along what geologists call the Wisconsin Avenue Ridge.



Salt and pepper texture of the Kensington Tonalite (aka Rock Creek granite), as seen in a specimen from the former Newark Street quarry. Many structures in Cleveland Park are faced with this classic building stone. Photo by Tony Fleming



An outcrop of the Sykesville Formation at Tregaron, along the creek trail off Macomb Street. The dark flecks are mostly black mica (biotite). No one knows for sure what they originally were, but they might be fragments of hot pumice that flattened as they landed.

### TREGARON

Tregaron is a stunning showcase of geologic features. Two types of Washington's most ancient bedrock can be seen along the north branch of Klinge Creek at Tregaron, near the lowest point on the property. One is a pyroclastic rock known as the Sykesville Formation. It is about 475 million years old, several miles thick, and formed from hot debris ejected during the explosion of a large caldera. A second bedrock formation that you can see at Tregaron is called Kensington Tonalite, a salt-and-pepper textured rock similar to granite. It is about 461 million years old, and crystallized from molten magma several miles beneath the Earth's surface. It was widely quarried in Rock Creek and Cleveland Park during the 1800s and early 1900s for building stone, when it was known in the trade as "Rock Creek Granite".

### THE NEWARK STREET QUARRY

Right behind the Uptown Theater are the remnants of one of the largest quarries that operated along the Connecticut Avenue corridor in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Called the Newark Street Quarry, it operated until the early 1900s. The Cleveland Park commercial strip is built on the floor of the old quarry, and many nearby homes and buildings are faced or trimmed with the rock, known as "Rock Creek Granite." If you walk down the passage that goes between the Post Office and the Uptown Theater, you can still see the old headwall of the quarry.



View toward the remnants of the Newark Street Quarry headwall behind the Uptown Theater.

# PRESERVATION DESIGN GUIDELINES FOR THE CLEVELAND PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT

by Ana Evans

The Cleveland Park Historical Society (CPHS) has launched an important initiative: the drafting of Preservation Guidelines for the Cleveland Park Historic District. CPHS has contracted with the nationally-known firm of Nore Winter & Co, and is undertaking this project in close association with the District's Historic Preservation Office.

One of the most difficult challenges for homeowners in an historic district is to determine how changes to their properties will affect the district's historic resources. Over time, each of the entities that participate in the preservation design review process for Cleveland Park — CPHS's Architectural Review Committee, the D.C. Historic Preservation Office and Historic Preservation Review Board, and the Advisory Neighborhood Commission — has evolved a different approach, and sometimes their conclusions are at odds with one another. This divergence of opinion and practice frustrates residents and weakens our efforts at preservation.

The Guidelines will describe in a clear format the architecture, open spaces, and streetscapes that are distinctive and significant in Cleveland Park. Input from the community and design professionals will help us refine the aims of our preservation efforts and seek consensus about preservation priorities.

Our goal is to bring improved transparency and predictability to a process that will always involve an element of subjective judgment. We hope that any resident contemplating a change to a property in the Cleveland Park Historic District will be able to use the Guidelines to determine how his or her house contributes to the district and how an alteration will affect the house's original design and its immediate surroundings.

Work on the Guidelines project commenced in March. At CPHS's Annual Meeting, Nore Winter will explain the process, give us an update on his progress, and solicit input from the community. The meeting will be held on May 20th. Stay tuned for more details about the meeting later in the spring.

## YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE TO THE GUIDELINES PROJECT!

As they begin their work, the Guidelines Committee would like to hear from you about additions, restorations, renovations, or new construction near you that you feel **exemplify good design and respectful treatment of Cleveland Park's historic houses and the streetscapes and open spaces around them**. The projects we would like to hear about are *exterior* projects at properties in the Cleveland Park Historic District, completed any time since the creation of the Historic District in 1986.

Are there projects near you that represent best practices for the historic district? Tell us about them!

Email [GUIDELINES@CLEVELANDPARKHISTORICALSOCIETY.ORG](mailto:GUIDELINES@CLEVELANDPARKHISTORICALSOCIETY.ORG) and tell us:

**the project address ♦ a brief description of the project ♦ what makes the project exemplary when the project was completed (if known) ♦ the architect (if known) ♦ a photo (if possible)**

Don't worry if you don't have all of that information. We are grateful for any input. Questions? Email us at the address above.

# Cleveland Park House Histories: A Skylight on Folsom Place

by Carin Ruff

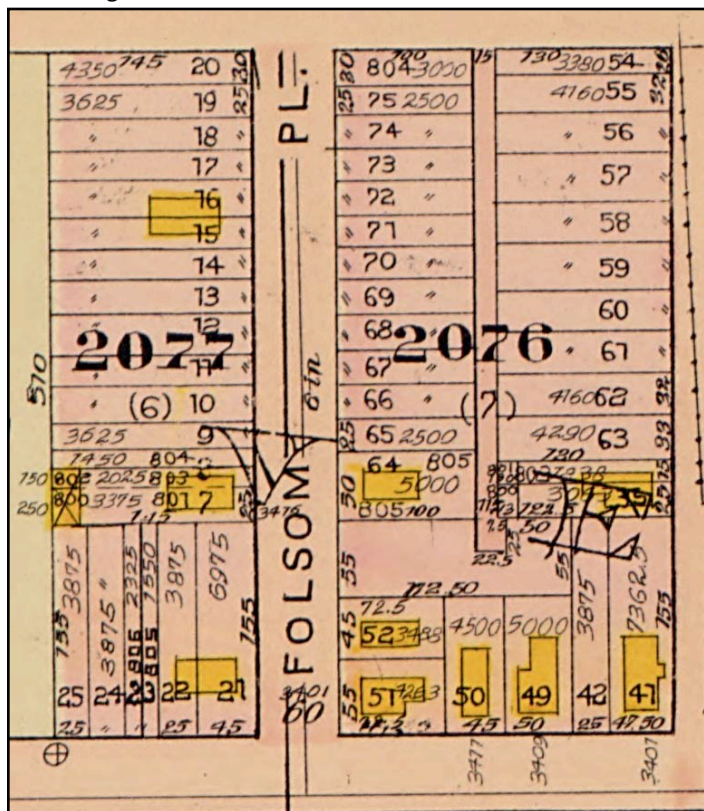
## WHEN TINA MEAD FIRST ASKED ME TO INVESTIGATE

the history of her house, she had two questions: Why is there a skylight in the attic room that seems to be original to the house? It's almost as if that room had been designed as an artist's studio. And why is the mix of houses, and the pattern of the lots they sit on, so weird on 34th Place?

The first question turned out to have a satisfyingly straightforward answer, on which more below. The second question opened up a surprisingly complex history of development in the first 15 years of this short street.

## WHEN 34TH PLACE WAS FOLSOM PLACE

When you begin to investigate the early history of a house in D.C., you need to establish what street address you're looking for, and also the Square, Suffix, and Lot (SSL), which is the key to property records and permits. The square doesn't change, but lot numbering, address numbering, and even street names can change repeatedly. Lot numbers change as lots are combined or subdivided. Addresses can change as more houses are built on a block. And street names were almost all changed during the first decade of the 20th century, as the Commissioners of the District of Columbia tried to bring order to the naming system in "suburban" developments that had proliferated in the late 19th century outside the L'Enfant-planned part of the city. The Baist Real Estate Atlases, which were updated every three years, show the square numbers and capture snapshots of the changing naming and numbering schemes.



Folsom Place (later 34th Place) in 1907, from Baist's Real Estate Atlas of Surveys of Washington, District of Columbia. Vol. 3, plate 26 (Philadelphia: G.W. Baist, 1907).

The history of 34th Place illustrates all of these changes. The house with the skylight is now 3409 34th Place. It sits on Square 2076, on lots that were numbered 8 and 9 when they first showed up on maps, and then were combined into lot 64, a.k.a. lot 805.

Before 34th Place was 34th Place, it was Folsom Place – named by Cleveland Park's early developers for Grover Cleveland's bride Frances Folsom. We need to know what the street was called in these years in order to find news stories about it and ads for its real estate.

## SELLING OFF THE FOLSOM PLACE LOTS

The pattern of lots sizes and numbering seems to have changed more on 34th Place than on many other Cleveland Park streets in the same period. The reason, it turns out, is that this little street got caught up in the vagaries of speculative development.

The first two houses built on 34th Place were the spectacular 1895 house by Paul Pelz and F.W. Carlyle, which is now no. 3440, and the yellow house by Robert Head (1900), which is now no. 3408. These houses are typical of the first phase of development of Cleveland Park, when the Cleveland Park Company — developers John Sherman and Thomas Waggaman — commissioned architects to design large, one-of-a-kind houses. Although these houses were designed from the first as year-round homes (since the streetcar now made commuting to downtown possible) their styles suggested the lifestyle of a country retreat. The developers of the 1890s were trading on the reputation of this area as the site in the 1880s of President Cleveland's "summer White House."

Early in the new century, however, Robert Head severed his ties with the Cleveland Park Company, and Sherman apparently began to suspect that Waggaman's finances were becoming shaky.\* The first sign of distress in the Cleveland Park Company was that after 1902, houses were designed by Sherman and his wife Ella Bennett Sherman, rather than by the "starchitects" of the day. Then, in 1904, the Shermans hired the real estate firm of Moore & Hill to market unsold homes and lots in Cleveland Park, which they did with great energy.

**CLEVELAND PARK**== Decidedly the handsomest and most accessible suburb—practically a part of the city now. Only 15 to 20 minutes to Treasury Department. City water, sewer, gas, electric light. Buy a lot for a building site or for speculation.

Ride out and take a look at those lots on 34th street, west side above Newark street—25x130 feet; 15 foot alley, for \$1,300. Those on Folsom place (the 1st street west of 34th st.), 25x100, \$1,000. Desirable lots near Conn. ave. only \$1,250.

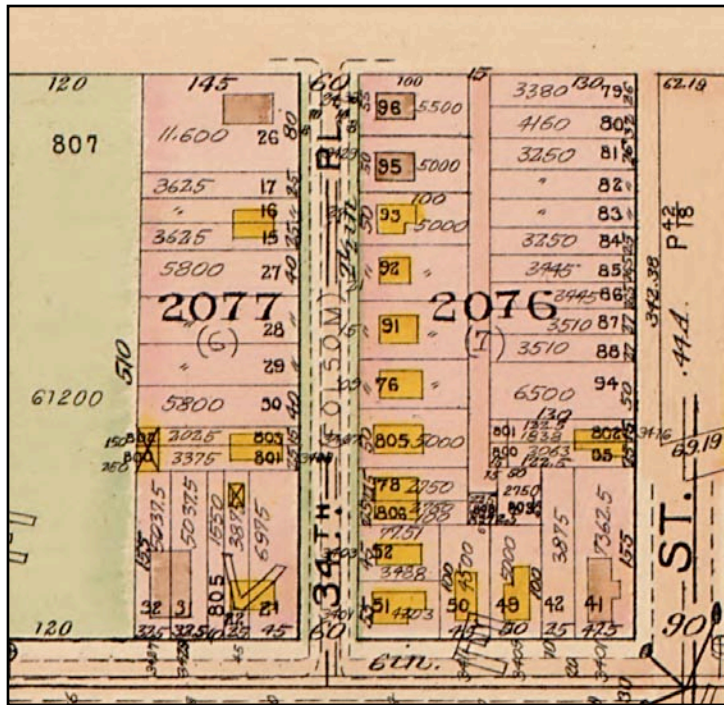
Terms, \$100 cash and \$20 per month. 6% discount for cash. Call for our list of houses in Cleveland Park and get our booklet. We're the exclusive agents.

On Folsom Place, the block had been platted in standard 25-foot-wide lots, but it was largely undeveloped (except for 3408 and 3440) when Moore & Hill took over marketing. A May 28, 1904 Moore & Hill ad in *The Evening Star* for the Folsom Place lots (above) encourages buyers to snap up the lots for building or speculation, and the pattern of development in

\*This account of the Cleveland Park Company's fortunes follows that of Kathleen Sinclair Wood in the Cleveland Park Historic District's National Register of Historic Places nomination. You can download the nomination and read more at: [clevelandparkhistoricalsociety.org/cleveland-park-history](http://clevelandparkhistoricalsociety.org/cleveland-park-history).

the next few years shows that people did just that. The pace of speculative buying picked up after Thomas Waggaman's bankruptcy in 1905 and then his death in 1906.

A *Washington Post* article from July 1906 captures the pattern of sales on the block as Waggaman's estate was being liquidated. The article features the sale of 3440 34th Place — which had previously housed the Turkish legation! — to a George Washington University professor. Two other GW faculty members each bought groups of three lots on either side of 3440, with the intention of building large homes on the combined lots.



34th Place in 1915, from *Baist's Real Estate Atlas of Surveys of Washington, District of Columbia*, Vol. 3, plate 26 (Philadelphia: G.W. Baist, 1915).

On the east side of the street, an unnamed purchaser had bought eight lots, with the intention of building on them later. Property records make

it clear that the unnamed buyer was Louise Taylor, who with her husband Charles moved in and profited from the dissolution of the Cleveland Park Company and filled in many gaps in the neighborhood's development. Property transfer records, as well as the 1915 map at left, show that the Taylors combined the eight lots they bought in 1906 into four double-size lots and built on them.

**CARL WELLER BUILDS A HOUSE — BUT IS IT 3409?**

The final purchaser named in the 1906 *Post* article is Carl Weller, who bought two lots, combined them to make a 50-foot-wide lot, and was building a house on them at the time of writing. That house appears on the 1907 map (previous page) and the 1915 map at left as a yellow square (indicating a frame house) on lot 805 on square 2076.

This is 3409 34th Place, the house whose history we are trying to trace.

In the 1910 Census, however, Carl Weller is listed as living at 3407 34th Place, with Louise Taylor at 3409. So what happened? As we can see from the 1907 map on the previous page, when Weller built his house, 3401 and 3403 34th Place had been built at the Newark Street end of the block, and there was a single, slightly oversized, vacant lot between 3403 and Weller's house. Weller's house was given the number 3407, presumably on the assumption that one house would be built between it and 3403, and that that future house would be 3405. Then, in 1914, a pair of semidetached houses was built on the lot between 3403 and Weller's house, each of which obviously needed its own street number. But it wasn't until 1916 that the houses on that side of the block were renumbered to accommodate the new pair of houses. On the 1915 map at left, you can see that the semidetached houses are present, but the house just to their north is still labeled 3407. The 1915 city directory shows the same thing. By the time Carl Weller died in 1920, he was living in 3409 34th Place — but he hadn't moved. The confusion over the addresses, however, has caused the permit for Weller's house to be omitted from the building permit database and contradictory notes to be entered in the Historical Society catalog — a cautionary tale for researchers.

**SO WHO WAS CARL WELLER?**

Happily for our original research question — why is there a skylight in the Meads' attic room? — it turns out that Weller was a serious amateur watercolorist who was known for his landscape paintings.

Weller, who was born in Sweden, made his career as a draughtsman with the Department of the Navy. But he appears in the Washington papers more often during his residence on 34th Place as a widely-exhibited artist and an officer of the Washington Watercolor Club and the Society of Washington Artists. In those years, both the *Star* and the *Post* had regular columns on the visual arts in Washington, which listed who was exhibiting where, who had won prizes, and when the artists' clubs were meeting. The newspaper stories allow us to track at least part of Weller's life as an artist.

It seems very likely that Weller planned a studio space into his house when he commissioned John Sherman and architect A.E. Sonneman to build it for him, or at least that he added the skylight and created the studio early in the house's history.

Research into the later history of 3409 34th Place continues. I am hoping to be able to find out more about Weller's career from the Archives of American Art, but if you know anything about Weller's work, or even own one of his paintings, please get in touch at [ruffresearch@gmail.com](mailto:ruffresearch@gmail.com).



Carin Ruff, Cleveland Park near-native, experienced scholar-librarian, and CPHS consultant, offers house histories and other research services.

Visit [RuffResearch.com](http://RuffResearch.com) to learn more or email [RuffResearch@gmail.com](mailto:RuffResearch@gmail.com).

*CPHS members receive a 10% discount on all services.*

*Stay tuned for more Cleveland Park house histories in future issues!*

VOICES is published twice a year by The Cleveland Park Historical Society. Contact VOICES editor Rhona Hartman at [rhona.hartman@gmail.com](mailto:rhona.hartman@gmail.com) or (202) 537-9575



Want to keep track of historic preservation news in Cleveland Park and all around D.C.? We post news of preservation and D.C. history events on [Facebook.com/ClevelandParkHistory](https://Facebook.com/ClevelandParkHistory).

# Resources for Seniors in Cleveland Park

## Cleveland Park Village: It's All About Connection

by Joanne Omang

At 85, retired Foreign Service officer Cy Richardson wanted to keep living in his Washington apartment, “surrounded by things that remind me of where I’ve been and what I’ve done.” But he could no longer drive to stores and appointments.



**Barbara Brown and Martha Kaufman, new friends who met through the Village**

Rather than move to a retirement home, Richardson joined Cleveland Park Village, a nonprofit organization in which volunteers and paid staff coordinate access to services like transportation and promote social activities for people like Richardson who want to age in their communities.

Some of the Village’s 100-plus volunteers have driven Richardson not only to stores but to concerts and theater and the Village’s Lunch Bunch monthly outings. “Other needs haven’t happened yet, but that may not last,” he said. “Ask me again in a year.”

Martha Baron, “an ordinary mother” from North Carolina, joined the Village as soon as it opened in May 2013, even though she is “still pretty healthy and don’t really need the services yet.” She had found it hard to make new friends in her high-rise apartment building, but has made several in the Lunch Bunch and the Village’s membership committee.

“I like the concept of aging in place and acquiring a feeling of community,” Baron said.

The Village’s 85 members each pay \$500 a year (or \$750 for a household) for services like help with computer skills, trimming hedges or shoveling snow, and access to group events. “It’s all about connection,” said Village Executive Director Susan Hester.

Cleveland Park Village is one of more than 200 Villages in a nationwide network that recognizes a new reality: 10,000 Americans turn 65 every day. “This is a demographic change that will transform America over the next 30 years,” Hester said. “Aging is not just one transition but many, involving changes in work life, relationships, health, the glory and choices of ‘leisure time,’ and the search for engagement and meaning.”

Janet Cyphers volunteers in the Village office and takes part in the Spanish conversation group. “The sessions are very casual but a lot of fun,” she said. She summed up the Village approach:

“¡Bienvenidos a todos!” – Welcome to all.

For additional information visit Cleveland Park Village’s website at [www.clevelandparkvillage.org](http://www.clevelandparkvillage.org), email [info@clevelandparkvillage.org](mailto:info@clevelandparkvillage.org); or phone 202-615-5823.

## Iona Senior Services

by Mary Anderson Cooper

On Wednesday, March 5, the *Washington Post* devoted an entire section of the paper to the subject of caregiving. One of the resources it mentioned was Iona Senior Services, surely one of the treasures in Upper Northwest Washington. As the Aging in Place movement grows in this community, Iona is one of the things that makes that possible.

Located at 4125 Albemarle Street NW, Iona’s Weinberg Wellness and Arts Center offers a broad range of activities that help make it possible for seniors and people confronting physical and mental challenges to remain active in their communities. The *Post* article told the story of a woman suffering from dementia following a stroke, who lives with her daughter’s family. As a three-day-a-week attendee at Iona’s day care program (which operates Monday through Friday) she benefits greatly from participating in the art, culture, and exercise programs and wholesome meals provided there, as well as from the personalized care provided by the social workers, nurses, Certified Nursing Assistants, art therapists, and volunteers.

Daily exercises and visits with musicians, artists, school children, and gentle dogs from the People Animals Love (PAL) program keep the days busy and interesting, while a “quiet room” provides participants a place to relax. When the weather is agreeable, an outdoor terrace surrounded by plants offers a tranquil place to sit in the open air. A full cooked lunch is provided daily, along with an afternoon snack, sometimes served as part of a cooking demonstration. Transportation to and from Iona (within a limited area) is available on a bus provided by Seabury Resources for Aging.

In addition to the services provided at the Albemarle Street facility, Iona operates a half-day program Monday through Friday at St. Alban’s Episcopal Church. Designed as a way to keep seniors engaged in their community, Iona’s Active Wellness Program at St. Alban’s includes exercise, workshops and educational programs, computer training, and lunch.

Other services provided to the community at large include: support groups for family members and caregivers of people suffering from various conditions; exercise programs for people from the community; counseling sessions with social workers; guidance with locating nursing homes, retirement housing, and in-home nursing assistance; art exhibits and field trips to galleries and other places of interest in DC; home-delivered meals for qualifying older adults; and a “lending library” of items like wheelchairs, walkers, and other supplies needed by people recovering from injuries, surgeries or illnesses.

For information on how to volunteer at Iona or benefit from the services offered there, call 202-895-9448. Information about all of Iona’s programs, along with a calendar of this month’s events, can be found at [www.iona.org](http://www.iona.org).



## 2 0 1 4 M E M B E R S H I P

Join online at [ClevelandParkHistoricalSociety.org/membership](http://ClevelandParkHistoricalSociety.org/membership)

or complete the following form and send it with a check payable to C.P.H.S. to:

CLEVELAND PARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY, P.O. BOX 4862, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20008

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Note!** Please be sure we have your current email address so that you do not miss important announcements. We will not spam you with too many emails, but we are now conducting most of our routine communication electronically, which saves us money and allows your membership dollars to go further.

Membership level:

\$50 Household     \$100 Sponsor     \$250 Patron     \$500 Angel

Please send me a copy of *Cleveland Park: A Guide to Architectural Styles and Building Types* at the \$8 member rate

Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would be interested in volunteering in the following areas:

House and garden tours     Tree planting, beautification     Membership, mailings

Event planning     Historic Preservation, Architectural Review Committee

Oral histories, local history research     Writing for the newsletter or website

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

*CPHS is a member-supported, 501c3 not-for-profit organization. Membership dues are fully tax deductible. Members receive priority registration for public events, invitations to member-only events, and discounts on event fees, house markers, note cards, and CPHS publications.*

CLEVELAND PARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
P.O. BOX 4862  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20008

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
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VOICES

SPRING 2014

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Design Guidelines for Cleveland Park  
Spring Architecture Tours  
Services for Seniors  
A 34th Place House History  
Cleveland Park's Geology  
*and more!*

## SAVE THE DATE!

The Annual Meeting of  
the Cleveland Park  
Historical Society  
will be on  
Tuesday, May 20th.  
*(Details to be announced)*

