

MARY ELLEN GROGAN

- o Resident since 1927
- o Eaton Parent from 1952 to 1971
- o 62 years old

When we moved to Cleveland Park, Ordway ran from Connecticut Avenue to 30th Street. It wasn't cut through to 34th Street until sometime in the early 1930's. So all that stretch from the back of the houses on Highland Place to Porter Street was just woods, where we used to play. There was a stream that actively flowed where there were little fish every so often. You could go wading. There were a lot of wild grape vines in the woods between 30th and 34th Streets, so we used to play Tarzan and swing on the vines across the creek.

The milk man used to come every morning. You could ride around in the ice truck that used to come. And the bakery truck used to come dailyfrom Holmes Bakery.

There was a stone quarry in the little shopping center where The Four Provinces is now (NW corner of Newark and Connecticut Avenue). And that's where most of the stone that you see in stone walls and foundations around here came from. The quarry wasn't operating when we moved here. Kids just played there, and there were sort of caves in it. The structures there now were built in the early '30s when the Uptown Theater and the Post Office were built.

When I started going to school, on Massachusetts Avenue near Dupont Circle, there was a bus that ran on 34th Street, that cost all of 25 cents. I used to get it at the corner of 34th and Ordway Streets, and go down Cleveland to Connecticut.

Helen Hayes went to John Eaton when she was little. Her family lived in the house at the end of Ashley Terrace. Heinie Menusch, who is in the Cooperstown Baseball Hall of Fame, lived on Highland Place, next to the Cleveland Park Club, when he was playing for the Washington Senators. So all the kids spent every summer of their lives waiting for him to come or go. Samuel Gompers, who founded the AFL, lived on Ordway Street at the corner of 35th Street, in the early '20s.

The city didn't own Ashley Terrace until about twenty years ago. It was originally the driveway for the last house. At some point lots were sold off from that property. This house was built, around 1915. Everybody's deed showed that they owned half the street in front of their house. When the water main broke the city said it could not replace it because the city did not own the surface rights to the street. Eventually, after many legal complications, the city did accept title to the street.

Cleveland Park is country living in the city.