



The Newsletter of the Cleveland Park Historical Society

A MESSAGE TO OUR MEMBERS: Welcome to the first solely electronic edition of *Voices*. Because of production and distribution issues related to the DC Stay-At-Home Order, we are utilizing email to deliver this 2020 newsletter to our membership. We hope that you enjoy it (and appreciate the trees we are saving!)

Happy Hundredth, Historic Houses!

Alliterations aside, there are a remarkable number of Cleveland Park homes reaching their centennials – nearly 70. These structures were issued building permits in late 1919 or 1920, and typically were finished within a few months. Is your house having a birthday? See the complete list of Cleveland Park homes turning 100 on page 6. You can easily find out information about your home, including its age, architect, first owner, etc., by exploring the fantastic interactive map published by the [DC Office of Planning](#) at [HistoryQuestDC](#).

The oldest house in Cleveland Park is the Rosedale Farmhouse. The main house was built in 1794, while the small wing at the rear dates to the 1730's or '40's, making it the oldest house in Washington. It wasn't until the 1890's that more houses were built as part of Cleveland Park's transformation into a "streetcar suburb".

The CPHS Historic Marker program (see next page) was created to raise awareness about the age of the Cleveland Park Historic District's homes. Historic markers remind us of the families living in these houses before us and what was happening in the world when the first residents moved in. They also help us appreciate the architectural styles, sturdy construction, and historical resonance that only old houses can inspire.

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Preservation News

Order a Historic Marker for Your Own House



CPHS offers historic house markers for contributing buildings in the Cleveland Park Historic District — those built before 1941 — and those individually landmarked. To order a marker, [download this form](#), add your name and address and mail it to us with your payment. We will confirm the date of your house and get your order started.

Our high-quality plaques are forged to order by the family-owned Erie Landmark Company. We provide these to members at cost (\$175) as well as to non-members (\$225, the difference is the price of a one-year household membership).

Email: staff@ClevelandParkHistoricalSociety.org

Newly Published Ward 3 Heritage Guide

The DC Historic Preservation Office (HPO) has published an 85-page Heritage Guide for Ward 3. It is a fascinating and comprehensive history of the area, filled with information and archival photos. For now, it is only available [online](#). Below is an extract.

What Shaped Ward 3?

Topography: Occupying the District's highest land, Ward 3 became the natural location for a public infrastructure of gravity-dependent water reservoirs and Civil War defenses, which influenced settlement.

Picturesque landscape: Hilly terrain and wooded valleys made the countryside attractive for estates and homes offering a cool retreat from the lowland city, especially after stream valleys were set aside as public parkland.

Rural origins: Remnants of a country road network and upland farms remain, as do scattered early suburban houses and meandering commercial arteries.

Transportation routes: Development was haphazard along the old road to Rockville and the Conduit Road along the Palisades, but planned extensions of L'Enfant Plan avenues created elegant boulevards for planned suburbs.

[\(continued in the Ward 3 Heritage Guide, page 4\)](#)

In the Neighborhood

Closure of the Uptown Theater



Along with many of you, CPHS was surprised and saddened to learn that AMC Theatres has terminated its relationship with the Uptown Theater. At the moment, we know of no specific plans for the future of Cleveland Park's historic theater, but we will continue to monitor developments. For a recent article in the Washington Post about this news, go to this [link](#). To read about the history of our Historic District's most iconic structure, go to this [link](#).

Seeking Stay-at-Home Stories and Pictures

Has spending your days at home and in the neighborhood given you a new appreciation for Cleveland Park and your neighbors? If so, we'd love to hear your thoughts and stories, and see your photos. Please [email us](#) and we will post on our website.

The Historical Society of Washington has launched an effort to collect - in real time - the reflections of DC residents on how they are experiencing life during the stay-at-home order. All types of media are welcome. For more information, go to [In Real Time](#).



Construction Projects of Note

Macklin Apartments, 3400 Connecticut Avenue NW:

The owner, Velocity Property Management, after first presenting to HPRB in January (report [here](#)), submitted revised plans to HPRB in early March (link to HPO drawings [here](#)) for the scheduled March 26th HPRB meeting. That meeting was cancelled, however, along with the April 26th HPRB meeting. We expect the revised plans to be reviewed at an upcoming HPRB meeting, to be announced.

Tregaron (Washington International School, 3100 Macomb Street NW):

The school's team presented their plans (link to HPO drawings [here](#)) at the February 27th HPRB meeting. HPRB requested changes relating to size, height, materials, and other aspects of the plan. The HPRB report can be found [here](#).

John Eaton Elementary School – a Rare View

If you walk by John Eaton in the next couple of weeks, you will see the two original buildings standing tall, and for the first time in decades, they are unfettered by the later central buildings as well as the planned construction that will take their place.

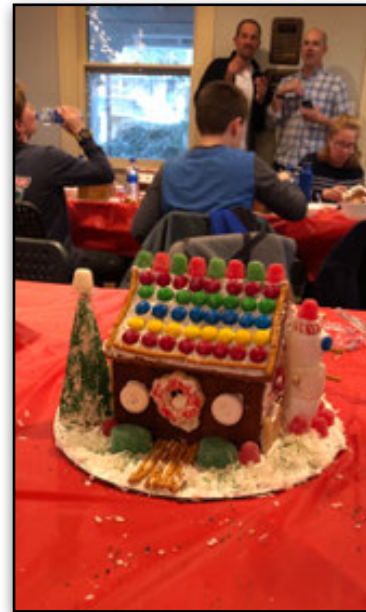
The school opened its doors in 1910, upon completion of the building that stands at the corner of Lowell and 34th Streets. Ten years later, the building to the east was finished. Since then there have been several additions, but those have since been razed. For now, enjoy seeing the revealed cross-section of walls, and the open space between the buildings. For the most recent update on construction at John Eaton, click [here](#), or take the [virtual tour](#)!



Events

Another Successful Gingerbread House Party

The annual CPHS Gingerbread House Party returned in December. A sold-out crowd of families made tasty and whimsical creations. Thanks to Master Baker Robert Jenkins (shown below), children and adults alike were provided with homemade, “pre-fab” gingerbread houses and a wide assortment of treats with which to craft their unique holiday creation.



Staying in the Neighborhood, Part 2

In February, the first session of ***Staying In The Neighborhood: From House to Apartment*** took place and was a great success.

Attendees heard from residents who had successfully made the move, and also received expert advice on preparing a home for sale and the decluttering required before moving.

The second session, on a date still to be determined, will focus on the financials- including the rent vs. buy decision- and will look at the available range of apartments in Cleveland Park/Woodley Park. It will again take place at the Library and is jointly sponsored by CPHS, Cleveland/Woodley Park Village, and DCPL.

Antiques Appraisal Day

We were sorry to postpone the Antiques Appraisal Day, originally scheduled for early April. Have no fear - we plan to re-schedule once public gatherings are again permitted in DC. Our partner, [Weschler's Appraisers](#), looks forward to evaluating your treasures.



Cleveland Park Houses Turning 100:

3309 Highland Place	2908 Ordway Street
3311 Highland Place	2910 Ordway Street
3410 Lowell Street	2909 Porter Street
3415 Lowell Street	2911 Porter Street
3417 Lowell Street	2913 Porter Street
3421 Lowell Street	2915 Porter Street
3611 Lowell Street	3415 Porter Street
2949 Macomb Street	3417 Porter Street
3101 Macomb Street	3419 Porter Street
3103 Macomb Street	3320 Quebec Place
3105 Macomb Street	3406 Quebec Street
3107 Macomb Street	3407 Quebec Street
3109 Macomb Street	3408 Quebec Street
3111 Macomb Street	3409 Quebec Street
3113 Macomb Street	3410 Quebec Street
3211 Macomb Street	3411 Quebec Street
3213 Macomb Street	3412 Quebec Street
3215 Macomb Street	3413 Quebec Street
3217 Macomb Street	3415 Quebec Street
3219 Macomb Street	3417 Quebec Street
3221 Macomb Street	3419 Quebec Street
3223 Macomb Street	3435 Quebec Street
3307 Macomb Street	3009 Rodman Street
3309 Macomb Street	3011 Rodman Street
3406 Macomb Street	3411 Woodley Road
3408 Macomb Street	3429 34th Street
3410 Macomb Street	3430 34th Street
3500 Macomb Street	3431 34th Street
3504 Macomb Street	3432 34th Street
3300 Newark Street	3433 34th Street
3608 Norton Place	3609 34th Street
2900 Ordway Street	3703 35th Street
2904 Ordway Street	3705 35th Street
2906 Ordway Street	3707 35th Street

Planning work on your home in the Cleveland Park Historic District?

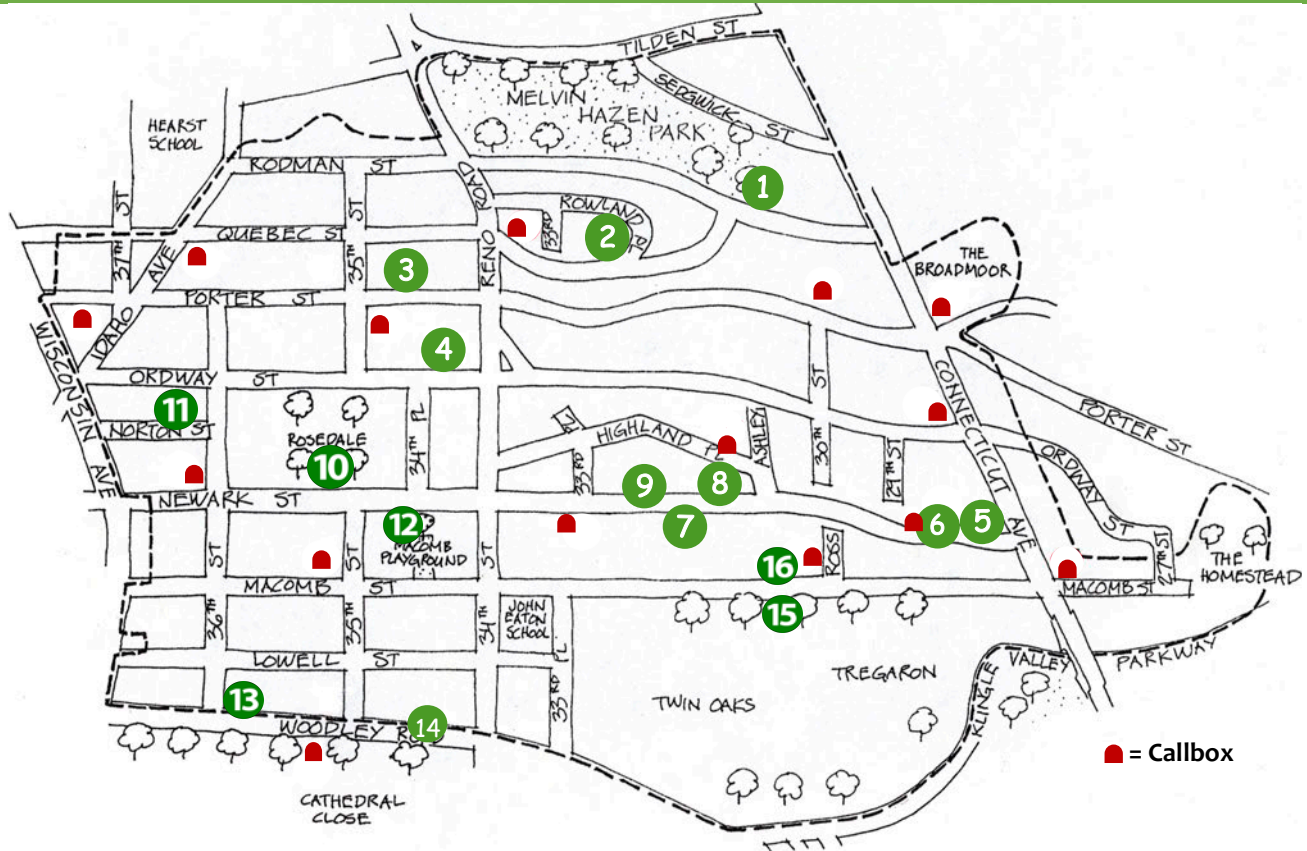
Owners of homes and other buildings in the Cleveland Park Historic District share responsibility for helping preserve the historic fabric of the neighborhood, the properties themselves and their relationship to the whole streetscape and natural environment.

For guidance on design review in Cleveland Park, and the permitting process in DC, go to this [link](#) on our website.

The Cleveland Park Historical Society Self-Guided History Walk

NEWLY UPDATED!

(Please observe social distancing and follow DC and Federal guidance on outdoor activities)





Examples of Architectural Styles (there are many to see in CP)

- 1. Bungalow (3035 Rodman; Sears, 1921)
- 2. Classic Modern (3201 Rowland Place; Lescaze, 1940)
- 3. Four-square (3431 Porter; Simmons, 1913)
- 4. Romantic Modern (3411 Ordway, I.M. Pei, 1960)
- 5. Art Deco: Uptown Theater, Zink '36 & Macklin, Mesrobian, 1939
- 6. Queen Anne (2941 Newark; Head, 1898)
- 7. Shingle (3100 Newark; Waddy Wood, 1897)
- 8. Japanese-Influenced (3138-40 Highland; Head, 1891, rooflines)
- 9. Old English Cottage (3145 Newark, Miller, 1922)
- 10. Farmhouse (Rosedale, begun 1740's)
- 11. Tudor Revival (3605 Norton; Pyle, 1913)
- 12. Mission (3432 Newark, Waddy Wood, 1897)
- 13. Colonial Georgian Revival (3105 36 St; Meyers, 1916)
- 14. Dutch Colonial (3409 Woodley; Norton, 1922)
- 15. Sears Cottage (3024 Macomb; Sears 1929)
- 16. Sherman Cottage (3023 Macomb; Ella Sherman, 1905)

Can you find?

Window styles:

- Palladian
- Oculus 
- Eyebrow 



Columns:

- Doric (all over)
- Ionic (#13)
- Undulating (3035 Newark)

Decorative:

- Rope & plaster (#16)
- Swags & garlands (all over)
- Baroque cartouche (#6)

Also of Note:

Grover Cleveland's House – stood near 3542 Newark (razed in 1920's)

Oldest "Streetcar Suburb" House – 3607 Newark, 1894; note tower and fretwork

Comdr. Robert Peary's House - 2940 Newark – note "porthole" window

Faulkner Houses: 3415 and 3419 36th Street (Waldron F.) and 3407 36th St (Winthrop F.)

John Eaton ES – The two original buildings are currently unfettered by new construction - hurry!

Tregaron – Historic landmark (1912) with gardens designed by Ellen Biddle Shipman

Online Resources

Here are just a few online resources about DC history, historic preservation and architectural history - there are many more!

- [HistoryQuestDC](#) - interactive map of DC buildings, including date, architect, and other info
- [DC Historic Preservation Office](#)
- [Washingtoniana Collection](#) at the DC Public Library
- [Historical Society of Washington](#) - search the Collection
- [Archipedia \(Society Of Architectural Historians\)](#) with a section about [Cleveland Park](#)
- [Free online courses about architecture from top universities](#)
- [Additional resources](#) on our website

Virtual Tours

- [National Trust for Historic Preservation](#) tours
- [John Eaton Elementary School Modernization](#)
- [DC Preservation League Tours of DC](#)
- [Mount Vernon](#) tour

Podcasts

- [Podcasts for fans of historic preservation](#) (National Trust for Historic Preservation)

CPHS LINKS

CPHS Website: clevelandparkhistoricalsociety.org

Staff Email: staff@clevelandparkhistoricalsociety.org

Membership: <https://www.clevelandparkhistoricalsociety.org/membership/>

Voices Archive: <https://www.clevelandparkhistoricalsociety.org/about-cphs/voices/>

Historic Preservation: <https://www.clevelandparkhistoricalsociety.org/historic-district/>

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