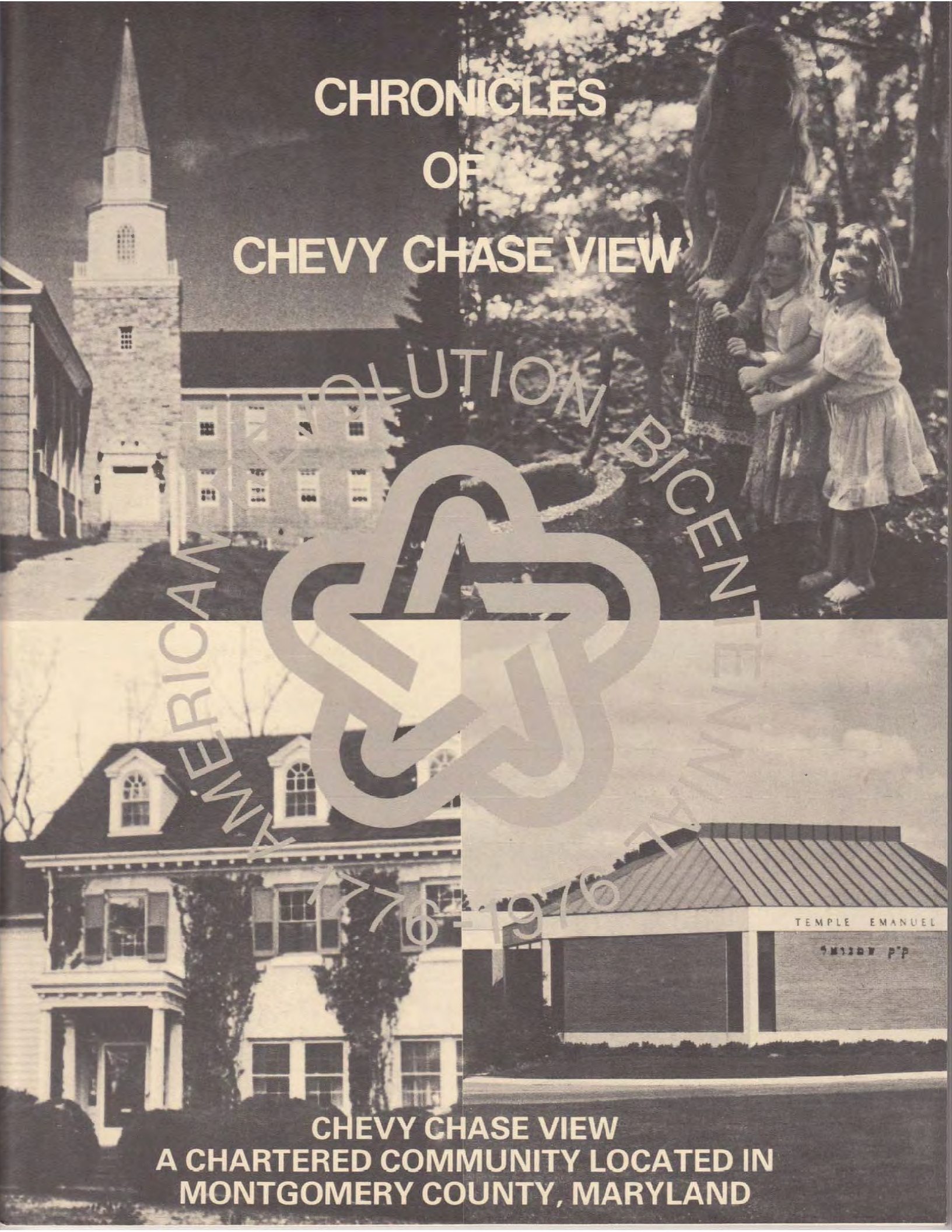


# CHRONICLES OF CHEVY CHASE VIEW

AMERICAN REVOLUTION BICENTENNIAL  
1776-1976



CHEVY CHASE VIEW  
A CHARTERED COMMUNITY LOCATED IN  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND



# **Chronicles of Chevy Chase View**

***MAYVIS FITZSIMONS, Editor***

**CHEVY CHASE VIEW  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND  
1983**

# **Dedicated To**

**MAYVIS ELLIS FITZSIMONS**

**1927 - 1980**

for her devotion to  
the preservation and  
appreciation of local  
history and architecture

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The Council of Chevy Chase View  
P.O. Box 136  
Kensington, MD 20895





Looking east down Dresden Street, Chevy Chase View's first settled street. Spring, 1977. Photo by Mayvis FitzSimons.

"I think Chevy Chase View was regarded by the old Kensington residents as a rather elite, post-Victorian suburb. We watched with much interest as the lovely homes were built on what were open fields and grazing land."

Mary Hall  
Kensington, May, 1975

"Chevy Chase View is one of the most popular communities that I know of . . . The streets are beautiful. I don't see where you'd want a better community . . . I'm going to stay here until I die."

Carroll F. Duvall,  
Chevy Chase View Oral History  
Interview  
Montgomery County Historical Society  
Jim Scull, Interviewer, September 24, 1975

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## Foreword

In 1976, Americans did not celebrate their bicentenary by a large national gathering in specially built halls as they did in the centenary. Instead, our nation emphasized local or grass roots history.

The bicentenary particularly spurred on Chevy Chase View, for its history had never been written. The first effort began with an appeal to residents to share their photographs, documents and recollections. We were lucky because our village, platted in 1910 (but not settled until the 1920's), is relatively new and some of our first settlers still reside among us. Thus, we can hear firsthand what it was like to crank the old autos, to ride the trolleys, and to build homes on what had been farmland.

The proximity of Washington, D.C. has caused many communities to be overshadowed by our exciting capital's history; and many felt that local and county matters were of little importance. However, Chevy Chase View, spirited and independent from the beginning, was different. We became a Special Taxing District in 1924, and recorded our activities.

Records show that Chevy Chase View's history was also intertwined with that of Montgomery County, which was a thriving entity some years before Washington, D.C. was established. Because the county's heritage, culture and landmarks are also meaningful to us, some of its background is included in this publication.

As Chevy Chase View is first and foremost a residential community, it was decided that this publication should highlight our homes. An architectural panel chose the most outstanding examples of our residences, beginning on page 26. The panelists were architects David Almy, AIA, and Lelia Imas, AIA; and historian, Mike Dwyer, Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. Their time, expertise, and objectivity in reviewing the architectural merits of our homes are indeed appreciated. Thanks also go to Val Spurney for helping guide this project from the beginning.

Appreciation is also extended not only to those people who wrote chapters, but also to the following individuals: Robert Truax, Columbia Historical Soci-

ety; Robert K. Maddox, Montgomery County Surveyor; Mary Hall, Bertha Kryz, Rev. Carter Morell, and Joan and Thomas Israel. Carroll Creitz and Dr. David Shakow in particular furnished documents which saved hours of land record research. Dr. Archibald T. McPherson, a fifty-two year resident, wrote a twelve-page memoir which helped greatly in reconstructing early Chevy Chase View. Tape-recorded interviews were held with Carroll Duvall, Mary Warthen, George Crossette, Peggy Cleveland, and W. J. McCausland, Photographic credits are noted throughout the text.

An editorial committee, composed of Charles Thomson, Chairman, Fred Hutchinson, Madelyn Royal, Mildred Schenck and Barbara Spies worked with the editor advising her on the general scope and focus of the history, reading and editing the draft manuscript, and making numerous valuable suggestions. Their assistance is gratefully acknowledged.

Madelyn Royal's interest in local history and her help, particularly during the bicentennial year, were a great contribution.

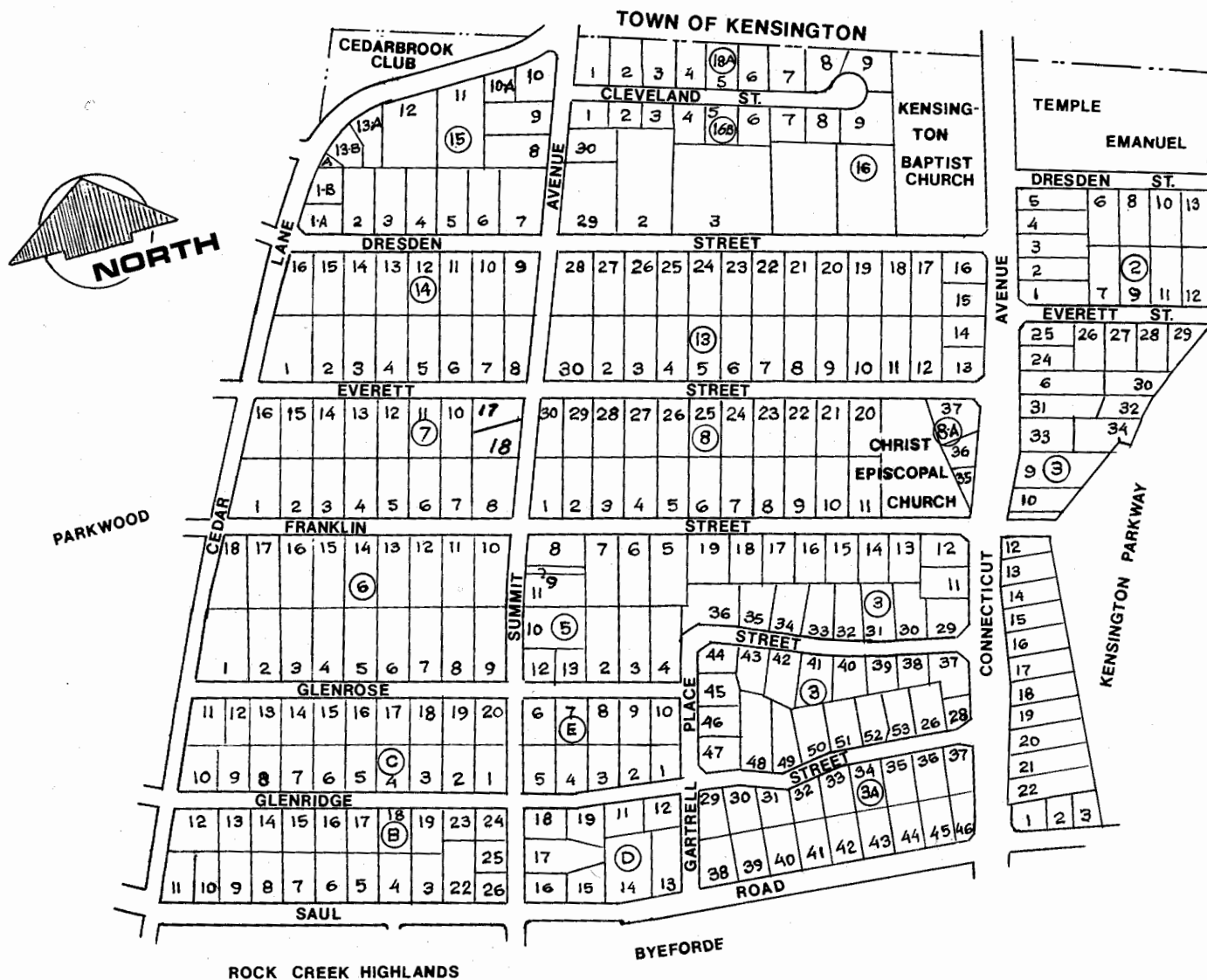
The Editor is also indebted to the Council of Chevy Chase View, which appropriated seed money in 1974 for a 50th Anniversary history publication. In 1977 the Council, with the community's approval, agreed to underwrite the printing cost not covered by subscriptions. Serving on the Council at the time, and offering guidance and support were: Harold G. Conger, Chairman; Lewis F. Bond, Sec.-Treas.; and Lloyd C. Dye, Mayvis FitzSimons, Allan H. Graeff, and George T. Masson, Jr. Subsequent Council members Joel E. Bassett, Cloyd D. Gull, Alfred W. Klement, Jr. and James F. Moulton, Jr. also assisted in completing this project.

The enthusiasm and generosity — and faith — of the people who subscribed to this history made it a reality. Their names are listed at the end of the Chronicles.

Our first residents worked for fundamentals such as passable streets, mail delivery, water supply and schools, as well as aesthetics — flowers, trees, and architecture. This volume memorializes those pioneers who settled in our community and who worked to make it the residential haven it is today.

Mayvis FitzSimons, Editor

**CHEVY CHASE VIEW PLAT - 1983**





## CHEVY CHASE VIEW: ITS ORIGINS, GOVERNMENT, AND CITIZEN ACTIVITIES\*

### Early Residents of the Area:

When fur trader Henry Fleet explored the Potomac River as far north as Great Falls in 1624, he described the environs as containing primeval forest, "swarming with deer, buffaloes, bears, and turkeys."<sup>1</sup> Indians used the Potomac River and Rock Creek for transportation and food.

In the late 1600's, the Maryland proprietary government made large land grants of those primeval forests and fertile tracts in Montgomery County. In 1689, Colonel William Joseph, a colonial official, was granted two parcels of land totaling over 8,000 acres. The parcel containing the Wheaton area was known as "Hermitage," and the acreage comprising Kensington and Chevy Chase View was called "Joseph's Park." Before his death in 1751, Daniel Carroll of the famous Maryland Carroll family, acquired 4,220 acres of "Joseph's Park" due to a mortgage foreclosure.<sup>2</sup>

A Montgomery County cadastral map, published in 1865, shows that there was only one house in what is now Chevy Chase View. Comprising 90 acres, the land was owned by George W. Adams. A deed dated November 13, 1865 shows that Adams sold the property to John Garland, and the deed mentions that "Joseph's Park" was also called "Bloomfield."<sup>3</sup>

On November 13, 1866 John Garland sold the 90 acres to John McDermott for \$6,200.<sup>4</sup> On March 1, 1866, Alfred Ray, a prominent area farmer and cattle breeder, was issued a patent by Maryland for 416 3/4 acres known as "Highlands," which included a portion of Chevy Chase View. On June 1, 1867, McDermott acquired from Mr. Ray some of the acreage of "Highlands."<sup>5</sup> The *Hopkins Atlas*, published in 1879, shows Mr. McDermott as occupant of the old Adams farmhouse.

John McDermott held the property until 1886, when he sold it to Thomas S. Gartrell.<sup>6</sup> The 1894 Hopkins map shows the Gartrells as owners of the house. It was the Gartrell family from whom Claud Livingston, who platted Chevy Chase View, purchased most of the land in 1909.

Thomas Gartrell was a well-to-do shoe merchant in Washington, D.C. who, according to Thomas Israel, a descendant, moved to his farm and country home in Chevy Chase View because of failing health. He died in 1905, and his widow, Estella Lear Gartrell, after

\*This section was researched and written by Mayvis Fitz-Simons, an active historian and writer who was instrumental in promoting the Bicentennial celebration in the Chevy Chase View area. Mrs. Fitz-Simons, a resident of Chevy Chase View, served on the Council of Chevy Chase View for a number of years.



*The Gartrell farmhouse, photographed at the turn of the century, had a bay window and two wings connected by a second story porch with a decorative balustrade. Photo courtesy Thomas Israel. Reproduction from a sepia print by Robert Humphreys.*

selling the land and house to Claud Livingston, moved back to Washington, where she died in 1916.

The Gartrell-to-Livingston deed lists the acreage as 168 3/4 acres, for which Livingston paid \$24,766. On the same deed, it is noted that Livingston also purchased part of the land known as West Kensington.<sup>7</sup> This was the former Brainard Warner property on the eastern side of Connecticut Avenue, called Kensington Gardens.

Of all those first people associated with Chevy Chase View — the Adams, McDermotts and Livingstons — only the Gartrells had a street named after them, Gartrell Place. The Gartrells, who had arrived from Scotland around 1700, were typical of those pioneer settlers who came to Montgomery County and prospered in the tradition of many of the first land-holding families. A twelve-page Gartrell genealogy, donated to Chevy Chase View by Thomas Israel, is on file at the Montgomery County Historical Society.

The Gartrell farmhouse was of substantial size. A copious spring, dependencies, and other structures associated with a farm were located on the property. The house was demolished by Walton Hendry after he purchased it in 1923, and the present house at 4025 Glenridge Street was built on approximately the same location. (See p. 28)

# CHEVY CHASE VIEW PLAT - 1910

I hereby certify that all the lots, blocks, avenues, streets, etc., indicated on this plat are part of the Chevy Chase View Plat, and are owned by John L. Livingston and Mary E. Livingston, his wife, to John L. Livingston and Mary E. Livingston, his wife, under the will of John L. Livingston, deceased, and that the same are properly indicated on this plat.

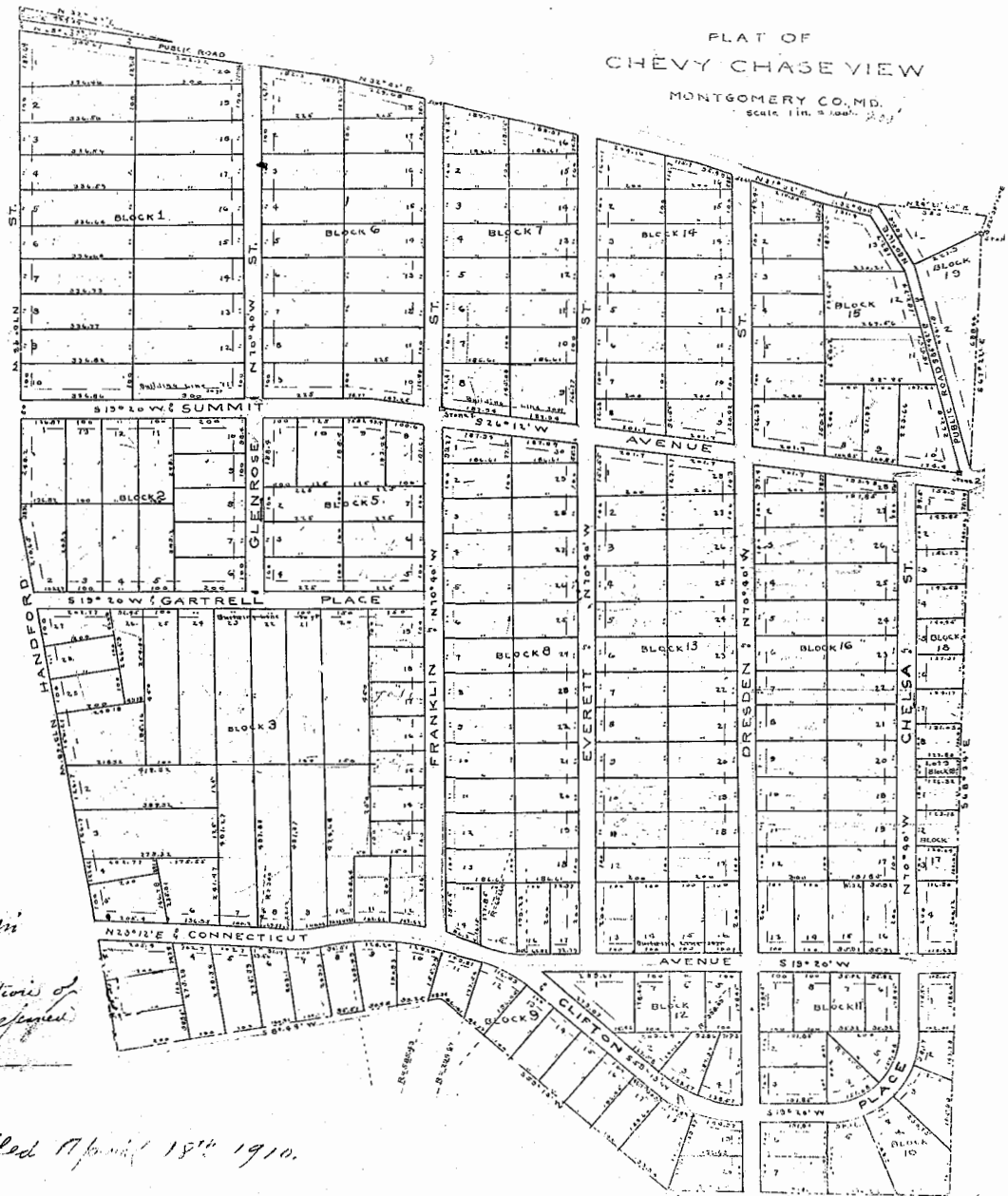
Apr. 1910

Franklin D. Sullivan  
Surveyor

## PLAT OF CHEVY CHASE VIEW

MONTGOMERY CO., MD.

Scale 1 in. = 100 ft.



Vide Deeds filed in  
No. 2608 Equity  
Abandoning a portion of  
this subdivision referred  
to in the Deeds

Filed April 18<sup>th</sup> 1910.



*Cedar Lane at the turn of the century. Courtesy Robert Humphreys.*

### The Importance of Cedar Lane:

When pioneers trekked through Montgomery County from Georgetown, they used the trail made famous by Major Washington and General Braddock when they journeyed through Montgomery County in 1755 to fight the French and Indian War in Ohio. The closest George Washington came to Chevy Chase View was Clean Drinking Manor, near the "Wood-end," headquarters of the Audubon Naturalist Society on Jones Mill Road in North Chevy Chase, where he stopped to rest and drink from the spring.<sup>8</sup> This spring still exists today.

The Braddock/Washington Trail later became the Old Georgetown Pike. Montgomery County was not formed until 1776, so local residents used the Georgetown Pike to Frederick County when they had business at the county seat of Frederick. In fact, Montgomery County was formed from the lower portion of Frederick County so that this area could have a more convenient county seat.

Not only were Frederick and Georgetown business and market centers, but Bladensburg, located in Prince George's County on the Anacostia River, was a bustling market port with colonial ships putting in to exchange British goods for American tobacco. The Old Bladensburg Turnpike, now Cedar Lane, was an east-west market road for our farmers. The route peeled off Old Georgetown Road and came through Kensington and on to Bladensburg. After the name Bladensburg Pike (later called the Bethesda-Bladensburg Pike) was discarded, the traffic artery was named Brown's Lane, for nearby landholders. Then for many years it was known as County Road before being named Cedar Lane in 1952.

### Other Early Landmarks:

The first bridge that crossed Rock Creek at Cedar Lane was known as "Hugh's Bridge," after Hugh Conn, who was an early land grantee. The Madonna of the Trail statue was erected in Bethesda because that locale was the first rest stop for pioneers and their horses traveling from Georgetown into Montgomery County and points west.

A very early rural school, called the Pine Hill School, was located on Cedar Lane where the Cedarbrook Club tennis courts now exist. In 1912 the school was either renovated into a private home or greatly refurbished by J. Phillip Herrmann as housing for the overseer of the eighteen acres in Chevy Chase View purchased by Mr. Herrmann in 1910. The school/home was demolished in the 1960's when Cedarbrook expanded. Guy Jewell, author of *A History of Mont-*

*gomery County Schools*, believes the school was built and supported by the rural families, who also paid the teacher, as was the custom before state-funded public schools. The Cedar Lane school was abandoned sometime around 1900 when the new two-story village school was built in Kensington.

Other early landmarks were two gristmills, one in Kensington on the Ray farm, near present day Kensington Junior High School, and the other near the railroad overpass at Beach Drive. This mill was owned by the Duvall Family (whose descendant, Carroll F. Duvall, was honored as Chevy Chase View's oldest citizen at the bicentennial celebration).

The Duvall mill was also called Newport Mill. Josiah Henson, the slave who furnished Harriet Beecher Stowe her characters for *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, lived at Old Georgetown Road and Tilden Lane, and his 1849 memoir mentions trips to Newport Mill.<sup>9</sup>

One of the oldest churches was the Cabin John Presbyterian Church, now the Bethesda Meeting House on Rockville Pike.

A large street car complex consisting of a car barn, power plant, employees' homes, and a passenger station/streetcar division office was located just south of the railroad tracks in Chevy Chase. The reservoir formed by the power plant's dam was known as Chevy Chase Lake, which Chevy Chase View residents utilized as a recreation lake until 1935. The Chevy Chase Lake Building, a ten-story highrise, is now located on the former trolley car barn site.

Dr. Edwin P. Laug of Dresden Street also reports that there was once a gold mine shaft somewhere along Everett Street west of Summit Avenue, although its exact location is unknown. Gold was mined in the Great Falls area until 1948. Another productive mine, the Miller Mine, was located near the Landon School in Bethesda.

### The Beginning of Our Community:

In the early development of Chevy Chase View, two men, Claud Livingston and Harry M. Martin, were important. The former created the village but did not stay, while the latter lived among us, organized our autonomous government, and guided the community to an orderly existence.

On October 14, 1909, Claud Livingston and his wife, Almira, conveyed the neatly platted community of Chevy Chase View to Harry E. Smith and John L. Whitmore. The deed was officially recorded on October 22, 1909.<sup>10</sup> Surveyed by Frank Ruppanier, the plat was recorded on April 18, 1910.<sup>11</sup>

Claud Livingston (1879-1946) was born in Georgia and came to Washington, D.C. in 1899 to work for the William H. Saunders Real Estate Company. Livingston later owned the company, which continues to operate today under the original name. Livingston's daughter, Almira Livingston Mills, still helps carry on her father's business. Mrs. Mills remembers very little about her father's part in the development of Chevy Chase View, but said that he was quite fond of the sense of creative accomplishment which he derived from suburban developments.

Claud Livingston came on the scene a generation after those first pioneers who invested in real estate in Montgomery County. The first wave of developers came between the 1870's and the Gay Nineties, when first the train, and then the streetcar, afforded efficient means of transportation to Washington's northern countryside. Thus, it was logical that Chevy Chase View would be created near Kensington, for even before the auto was perfected, Kensington, with its train station and trolley terminus, was regarded as having the latest in transportation convenience.

Before the advent of the train in 1873, Kensington was occupied by a scattering of ruralities, the most prominent being the Knowles family. For many years, because the train made a mail and passenger stop on former Knowles property, Kensington was called Knowles Station. Brainard Warner, a philanthropist, banker and real estate entrepreneur, developed Knowles Station as a summer colony for Washington residents. After visiting London's Kensington, Warner discarded the name of Knowles Station, filed his first plat in 1890 under the name of Kensington Park, and proceeded to develop a dreamland Gay Nineties Victorian Village.

Brainard Warner also invested in real estate in Takoma Park, Garrett Park and Glen Echo, but Kensington was his toy. His touch was in the old Victorian Town Hall, the little press building which published his Republican newspaper and in the Noyes Library he gave to the town, complete with the owl motif which he used on the interior trim of his home (the present Circle Manor Nursing Home). Brainard Warner was not only a product of Victorian flamboyance, but he was also a product of the post-Civil War expansion which brought many young adventurers to Washington. In her history of the capital, Constance Green describes Warner as an unknown country boy who came to work as a government clerk and who found undreamed - of riches in real estate.<sup>12</sup>

Constance Green could also have been describing Claud Livingston. He came to Washington as a penniless youth, and began as a bookkeeper in the William H. Saunders Company.<sup>13</sup> But unlike Warner, Livingston did not build a home of his own in the village he platted. At the time of his death in 1946 the Livingstons were residing in Kenwood.<sup>14</sup>

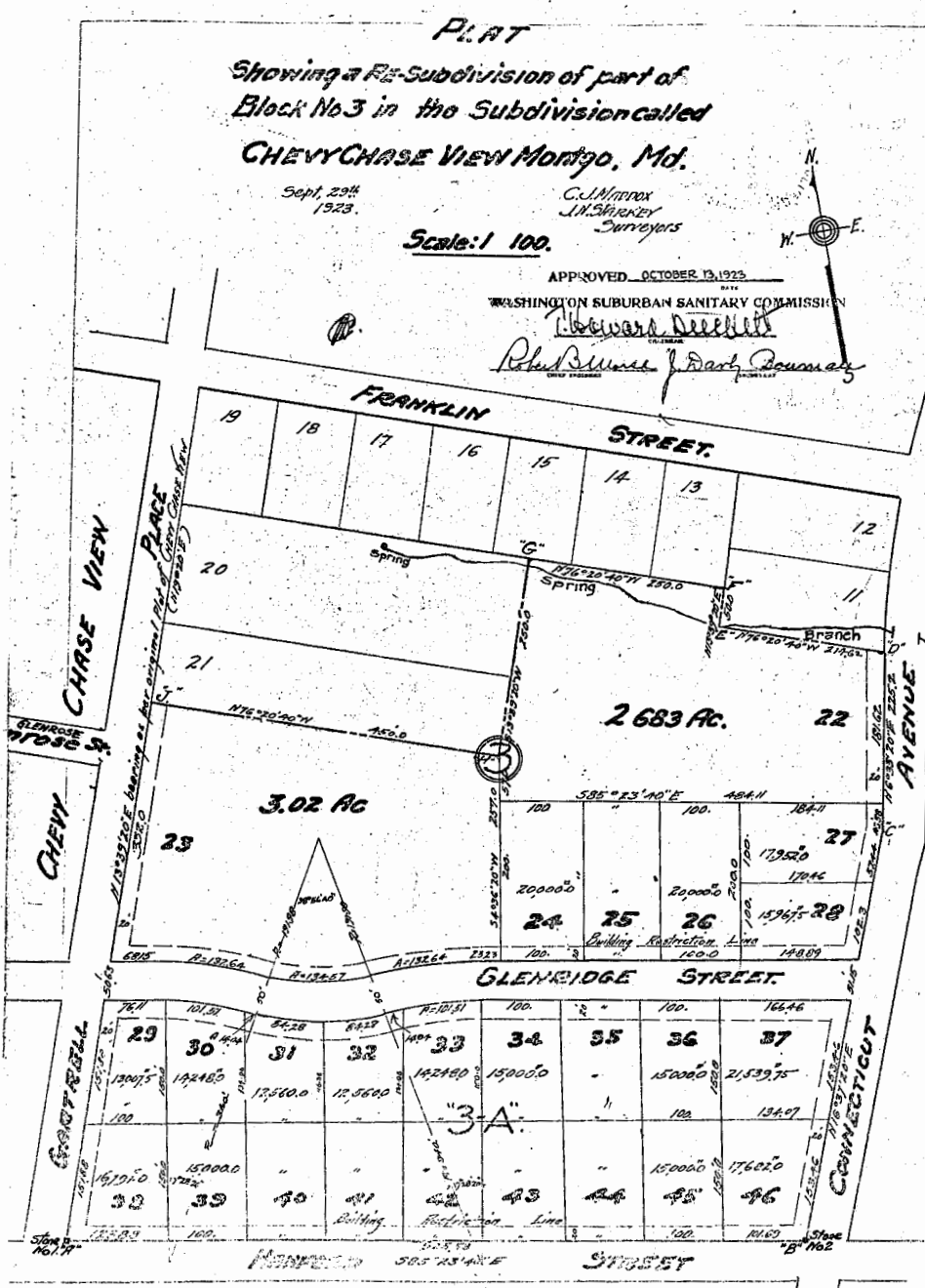
In 1911, a year after the filing of Chevy Chase View's plat map, Harry E. Smith, by a quit-claim deed, acquired the holdings of investor John L. Whitmore.<sup>15</sup> After that, many speculators were involved in the sale of lots in Chevy Chase View. The most outstanding one, and the one who was to be personally enmeshed in the affairs of Chevy Chase View for years to come was Harry M. Martin (1863-1956). Mr. Martin bought a large tract of land in the Dresden Street area and built his first home at 4011 Dresden. When that became too large, he built a smaller one next door at 4007 Dresden. It was Harry Martin who organized Chevy Chase View as a Special Taxing District, and who laid the foundation for its community codes and uniqueness.

#### Mr. Livingston as a Planner:

Chevy Chase View, laid out in an irregular grid, has remained relatively true to its original plan. The original plan provided for connecting Summit Avenue and Connecticut Avenue with east-west streets named in alphabetical order from Chelsea Street in the northern portion of the subdivision (approximately where Cleveland Street is now located) to Handford Street; (subsequently named Saul Road) in the south. East of Connecticut Avenue, Clifton Place was planned as a continuation of Chelsea Street, looping back to Connecticut Avenue between Everett and Franklin Streets.

The plans for Chelsea Street and Clifton Place were abandoned early in the development of the area. In 1910, a petition by investors Whitmore and Smith stopped the plans for Chelsea Street, as well as the Glenrose Street extension from Gartrell Place to Connecticut Avenue.<sup>16</sup> In 1925, Cleveland Street was opened, replacing about one half the proposed length of Chelsea Street, at the western end toward Summit Avenue. Cleveland Street is Chevy Chase View's only street terminating in a cul-de-sac. "Cleveland" was the third name given the street, following the aborted "Chelsea" and an attempt to name it "Martin Road." However, one who researches the old records can't help feeling that it should have remained Martin Road after the indomitable Harry Martin.

Other streets were added to Livingston's original plan. A 1923 resubdivision map shows the addition of Glenridge Street between Glenrose Street and Saul Road (the former Handford Street, renamed for the B.F. Saul family whose house and farm, "Tempo Farm," were located on the south side of the road). At the time of the 1923 map, investor Charles E. Wire owned the tract of land west of Gartrell Place (bounded by Summit Avenue, Glenrose Street, Cedar Lane and Saul Road) and Walter Hendry owned the tract east of Gartrell Place to Connecticut Avenue, which land included the former Gartrell homesite.



We the undersigned Charles Madox and Joseph N. Sturkey certify to the following:

1st That the lots blocks and public highways indicated on this plat have been carefully and accurately surveyed and that they are a resubdivision of a part of Block 3 of the Subdivision called Chevy Chase View as of record in plat book No. 2, Plate 128, and conveyed as herein noted.

(a) That the parcel indicated within the letters A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z, to be the same that conveyed from Charles G. Phipps and wife to M. Walter Hendry, master of this plat, by deed recorded among the land records of Montgomery County, Maryland, the 15th day of February, 1923 in Liber 46328 at folios 161 & 162.

(b) The parcels numbered from 11 to 22 inclusive are not a part of this subdivision, but are shown for convenience only.

2nd That the lines of this subdivision do not conflict with any other subdivision heretofore made and recorded.

3rd That monument stones designated N.C. 1111, 1112, 1113, 1114, 1115, 1116, 1117, 1118, 1119, 1120, 1121, 1122, 1123, 1124, 1125, 1126, 1127, 1128, 1129, 1130, 1131, 1132, 1133, 1134, 1135, 1136, 1137, 1138, 1139, 1140, 1141, 1142, 1143, 1144, 1145, 1146, 1147, 1148, 1149, 1150, 1151, 1152, 1153, 1154, 1155, 1156, 1157, 1158, 1159, 1160, 1161, 1162, 1163, 1164, 1165, 1166, 1167, 1168, 1169, 1170, 1171, 1172, 1173, 1174, 1175, 1176, 1177, 1178, 1179, 1180, 1181, 1182, 1183, 1184, 1185, 1186, 1187, 1188, 1189, 1190, 1191, 1192, 1193, 1194, 1195, 1196, 1197, 1198, 1199, 1200, 1201, 1202, 1203, 1204, 1205, 1206, 1207, 1208, 1209, 1210, 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, 1215, 1216, 1217, 1218, 1219, 1220, 1221, 1222, 1223, 1224, 1225, 1226, 1227, 1228, 1229, 1230, 1231, 1232, 1233, 1234, 1235, 1236, 1237, 1238, 1239, 1240, 1241, 1242, 1243, 1244, 1245, 1246, 1247, 1248, 1249, 1250, 1251, 1252, 1253, 1254, 1255, 1256, 1257, 1258, 1259, 1260, 1261, 1262, 1263, 1264, 1265, 1266, 1267, 1268, 1269, 1270, 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2765, 2766, 2767, 2768, 2769, 2770, 2771, 2772, 2773, 2774, 2775, 2776, 2777, 2778, 2779, 2780, 2781, 2782, 2783, 2784, 2785, 2786, 2787, 2788, 2789, 2790, 2791, 2792, 2793, 2794, 2795, 2796, 2797, 2798, 2799, 2800, 2801, 2802, 2803, 2804, 2805, 2806, 2807, 2808, 2809, 2810, 2811, 2812, 2813, 2814, 2815, 2816, 2817, 2818, 2819, 2820, 2821, 2822, 2823, 2824, 2825, 2826, 2827, 2828, 2829, 2830, 2831, 2832, 2833, 2834, 2835, 2836, 2837, 2838, 2839, 2840, 2841, 2842, 2843, 2844, 2845, 2846, 2847, 2848, 2849, 2850, 2851, 2852, 2853, 2854, 2855, 2856, 2857, 2858, 2859, 2860, 2861, 2862, 2863, 2864, 2865, 2866, 2867, 2868, 2869, 2870, 2871, 2872, 2873, 2874, 2875, 2876, 2877, 2878, 2879, 2880, 2881, 2882, 2883, 2884, 2885, 2886, 2887, 2888, 2889, 2890, 2891, 2892, 2893, 2894, 2895, 2896, 2897, 2898, 2899, 2900, 2901, 2902, 2903, 2904, 2905, 2906, 2907, 2908, 2909, 2910, 2911, 2912, 2913, 2914, 2915, 2916, 2917, 2918, 2919, 2920, 2921, 2922, 2923, 2924, 2925, 2926, 2927, 2928, 2929, 2930, 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Early residents asked that Franklin and Everett Streets be cut through to connect with Kensington Parkway for easy access to the streetcar stops. Eastwood Lane, another street not contained in the Livingston plan, is shown on a 1944 map as being a small, angled street, extending from Everett to Franklin Street, near Connecticut Avenue. Eastwood Lane was abandoned after the Episcopal Church was built.

The last major revision of the streets was in the middle 1960's when Glenrose Street was extended from Gartrell Place to Connecticut Avenue. A little later the undeveloped portion of Gartrell Place between Glenrose and Franklin Streets was deeded to abutting property owners. Chevy Chase View at present has 3.23 miles of streets.

Livingston's original plan called for 276 lots. There are at present approximately 300 homes in Chevy Chase View.

There is no record of how Mr. Livingston chose the name Chevy Chase View. Traditionally, we were part of "Highlands," which gave a view of the surrounding countryside. Senator Francis Newlands developed Chevy Chase in 1890, and the name imparted magic to the whole area. Chevy Chase View is the northernmost of the "Chevy Chases" which are located north of the Maryland-D.C. line.

#### Getting Going:

One of the first large land purchases in Chevy Chase View was made in 1910 when J. Phillip Herrmann bought a tract of eighteen acres.<sup>17</sup> This extended westward from Connecticut Avenue to Summit, and northward from Dresden Street to beyond the Kensington border. According to Dr. McPherson, Mr. Herrmann, who had a residence in Kensington, planned to build a country estate in Chevy Chase View, and laid out an orchard for it. (For many years, Noah Bowman was the overseer of the Herrmann orchards and lived in the renovated schoolhouse on Cedar Lane). Jane Herrmann remembers a World War I vintage plane crashing in her father's orchard. The pilot walked away unharmed and for awhile was a Kensington celebrity.

Due to the onset of World War I and the great influenza epidemic that followed, land purchases, building, and development virtually ceased in Chevy Chase View. But by 1920 the nation was recovering and with the advent of the automobile, Kensington and its environs were increasingly looked upon as a permanent place to settle. Mr. Herrmann, however, changed his mind about building in Chevy Chase View, and in 1920, through Davis W. Simpson, sold his property to Harry Martin.<sup>18</sup>

A year later, Martin sold nearly five acres, fronting Connecticut Avenue, to F. Regis Noel.<sup>19</sup> He then divided the remaining land into smaller building lots, the larger ones fronting Dresden Street and the smaller ones bordering the Kensington line. Thus Chevy Chase View was ushered into the early Twentieth Century with Martin's first development. He had experience from developing his previous plats named "Martin's Additions," the first one in 1906 near Chevy Chase.

According to the resubdivision map of Martin's acreage, drawn up in 1923, four homesites were in place: his own at 4011 Dresden; two houses built on properties acquired from Martin in 1922, the J. Staley Elms house at 4109 Dresden and the Dr. Earle B. White house (White was Elms' brother-in-law) at 4001 Dresden; and the Lawrence Smoot house (Smoot was Martin's nephew) at 4101 Dresden, Smoot having acquired the property from Martin in 1923. From oral history interviews, it appears that Martin's home was the first built in the little settlement since the old Adams farmhouse. Community development was at last afoot after a thirteen year hiatus from the time of platting.

Old-time Kensington residents, according to Mary Hall, expected that Chevy Chase View would be a rather elite post-Victorian settlement. But the nation had grown tired of Carpenter Gothic and Queen Anne architecture, and Frank Lloyd Wright's sleek prairie style was on the horizon. The young couples of the Roaring Twenties, who were leaving their parents' Victorian homes with the wraparound porches for bungalows with patios, were the first portent of the nuclear family. However, the first architecture in Chevy Chase View was neither cottage-style like Garrett Park's in its post-Victorian wave of development, nor was it like Kenwood's, which began in the 1920's as a showcase of mini-estates and cherry trees.



*Chevy Chase View has no Victorian homes, but the house at 4200 Everett Street has a Victorian type gazebo in its yard. Photo by Mayvis FitzSimons.*

The first architecture in Chevy Chase View was basically of a two-story style with an air of restrained elegance: the Georgian style frame houses at 3910 and 4100 Dresden and 4205 Saul Road, with their pedimented porticos; the brick homes at 4205 Dresden and 4005 Cleveland with the Federal influence; the frame house at 3904 Dresden with the dentils on the entablature; the porch chambers on the houses at 4009 and 4003 Everett; the Dutch Colonials at 4101 Dresden and 9809 Summit (before remodeling); the English Tudor at 10100 Connecticut; and the Spanish Revival at 9826 Connecticut with its arcades and wrought iron trim. Later, in the 1930's, Cape Cods with protruding dormers breaking the steep roof-lines, such as those at 4007 Dresden and 4301 Glenrose, began to dot the community.

However, before all this bustle, Harry Martin had Chevy Chase View all to himself, the Gartrell house having been abandoned. Mr. Martin's niece, Mrs. Evelyn Donnelly, who resides today in Bethesda, said that her uncle was regarded by his friends as very brave, as well as a little daft, to be out in the "wilds all by himself." Octogenarian Mary Warthen, who was the first person to live on the south side of Dresden Street, remembers Harry Martin as the first resident in the village.<sup>20</sup>

Another person early on the Chevy Chase View scene was A.C. Warthen, a prominent local builder, who also built many of the first homes in Chevy Chase View. In 1910, Mr. Warthen acquired from Claud Livingston ten building lots which extended from Dresden Street through to Everett Street at the Connecticut Avenue end.<sup>21</sup> Mr. Warthen used this as



*Swimming pool on the former Hendry property, fed by underground spring. Courtesy Mary Hall.*

grazing land until 1923, when he completed the house at 3904 Dresden Street for his son Gerald and daughter-in-law Mary Warthen. Indeed, this house holds the community record for being the only residence in Chevy Chase View owned by three generations. Mary Warthen conveyed the home to her daughter, Laura Warthen Avery, who in turn conveyed it to her daughter, Mary Jane. She and her husband, Edward D. Hays, live there today with their two minor children, Stacy and Richard.

In the early 1920's, A.C. Warthen also built a home next door to 3904 Dresden Street for his daughter, Rebecca Gardener. Then, in about 1923, he completed the house at 4003 Everett Street for another daughter, Ethel (Mrs. Carroll Duvall). In 1946, Mrs. Duvall's brother, Willard Warthen, also a builder, built the present Duvall house at 4017 Everett Street and, two years later, constructed his own retirement home at 4013 Franklin Street, now the home of Adele and Charles Thomson.

In 1923, another chunk of land, which included the Gartrell homesite, was purchased by Walton Hendry.<sup>22</sup> Hendry's purchase extended westward from Connecticut Avenue to Gartrell Place and northward from Saul Road approximately to the rear lot lines of Franklin Street. Mr. Hendry, after constructing his home on the old farmhouse site, built a swimming pool, utilizing the natural spring to furnish the water. The former springhouse was used as a dressing room.



*The Cleveland house at 4301 Glenrose Street, built in 1936, is unique with its near cat's slide rear roof. Courtesy Peggy Cleveland.*

The flared-column houses and those with the colonettes on the eastern side of Connecticut Avenue were Chevy Chase View's first large-scale development. In the early 1920's, the yards fronted a small, two-lane road, which one could cross without risking life and limb. Claud Livingston did not live to see Connecticut Avenue become a super highway, splitting off a section of the village so severely that some homeowners on the eastern side of the street say they feel more akin to Kensington and Rock Creek Hills than to Chevy Chase View.

In fact, there is a strange "lay of the land" along Kensington Parkway, where only four homes come under the jurisdiction of Chevy Chase View. Those are at 9908, 9910, 9912 and 9918 Kensington Parkway. The latter two houses are on lots with small portions of the land in Rock Creek Hills.

Nevertheless, in the early 1920's, the strip along Chevy Chase View's portion of Connecticut Avenue contained the most popular building lots. Mary Warthen remembers watching the beehive of construction from her house on Dresden Street in 1923.<sup>23</sup> Early minutes of Chevy Chase View Citizens Committee pointed out that "there are more houses on Connecticut Avenue than in like space in Kensington." Residents Arria McGinniss, 10001 Connecticut Avenue, and Elinor Milburn, 10013 Connecticut Avenue, moved there with their parents when they were children and still reside in their childhood homes.

Many of those first settlers were scientists with such agencies as the National Bureau of Standards; attorneys, both private and government; or real estate brokers, either the small investors or those with the large firms.

Still, there were only a few homes in Chevy Chase View before 1930: the Duvalls and the Zimmerlis on Everett Street; the cluster of houses on Connecticut Avenue's eastern side, and the Noels on the west side; the small settlement on Dresden Street; Hendry on Glenridge; H.H. Beltz and the Mörks on Summit; Pinkie and Arnold Scott on Franklin; and Margaret and Archibald McPherson, who were the pioneers on Cleveland Street in 1925, and their first neighbors, the Frazers, who came in 1928.

To stimulate the sale of lots, developers, spear-headed by Harry Martin, organized a raffle with a Model T automobile as a prize. It was won by Margaret and L.V. Appleman, who built a home in 1927 at 3910 Dresden Street, and who reside today at 4101 Dresden.

By 1933 there were twenty-seven homes. But there must have been a frenzy of building, despite the Depression years, for by 1940 approximately 100 homes had been built, replacing the cows grazing in the fields. Mr. Livingston's dirt roads received coatings of oil and cinders. If the fields of daisies and other wild flowers disappeared under man's foot and bustling activity, those early settlers brought in cultivated gar-



*Dr. Arnold Scott and his wife, Pinkie, built their own home at 4200 Franklin Street in 1929. Their daughter, Dorothy, is shown in the window. Courtesy Dorothy Scott Atkinson.*

den plants and flowering trees. The energetic Dr. McPherson, who also owned land on Cedar Lane, planted a minute forest of pines there. He reminisced, "They were really needed for a windbreak since Chevy Chase View was then open country and in winter the northwestern gales swept across the area in force."



*Pines planted by Dr. A.T. McPherson now form a small woods on the Lillian and Carroll Creitz property at 10145 Cedar Lane. Photo by Mayvis Fitzsimons.*

By 1940, Chevy Chase View's population was 444, and by 1942 it was 528. With a total of 154 homes constructed by 1942 (and 169 by 1943), the community was over halfway built to its present number.

#### Government (the Citizens Committee):

For about 20 years (1937-57), Chevy Chase View had two groups operating simultaneously: the Citizens Committee (political), and the Citizens Association (a civic group). The forerunner of the present Council was the Citizens Committee.

In 1914, Maryland authorized the formation of Special Taxing Districts, which were empowered to collect taxes and support their own refuse collection and street maintenance, provide for code enforcement, and exercise other minor governmental functions. The rural-based county government was unable to provide services to the burgeoning suburban areas.

Eight of the Special Taxing Districts, including Chevy Chase View, were formed in the period from 1914-1924. With Harry Martin as the prime organizer, Chevy Chase View received this status in 1924. The official records of Chevy Chase View begin on April 14, 1925 with a call for residents "to re-elect committeemen of the District of Chevy Chase View." Harry Martin and W.E. Brown had served *ad interim*.

Those first people elected to the Citizens Committee were: Martin, Chairman; W.E. Gardner, Secretary-Treasurer; and G.H. Warthen, A.B. Fennell, C.F. Duvall and W.E. Brown.

The group began routinely enough: setting a bond for the Treasurer, drafting and adopting by-laws, launching an investigation of the tax rate, and ordering a letterhead. The first community concern was to reduce the Chevy Chase View speed limit from 35 to 20 miles an hour, and to prepare a set of rules and regulations for the citizens.

However, other matters were not so easily settled by those first residents. The question of lot size entered early on the scene and was a major source of friction. In 1925 the Smoot Company was selling lots and the Citizens Committee agreed that a 75-foot frontage would be allowed. A year later the C.H. Galliher Company requested a 60-foot frontage on the west side of Summit Avenue and a 75-foot frontage on the east side. By unanimous vote, the Citizens Committee agreed to amend the regulations to permit this. Two months later, on November 22, 1926, three men, H.H. Beltz, A.T. McPherson, and W.E. Brown protested the decision, but the Committee tabled the matter, and W.E. Brown resigned. Dr. McPherson's reminiscences are as follows:

Throughout the history of Chevy Chase View, efforts have been made to permit the subdivision of lots and to establish 50 feet as the minimum frontage. Residents have usually reacted strongly to maintain the established lot sizes, though at one time the Council [sic] yielded to pressure from real estate developers and proposed to permit smaller lot sizes. This action would, of course, have made more business for Harry Martin, but he signed a petition opposing it.

Also, according to Dr. McPherson, Harry Martin blocked the plans of F. Regis Noel to erect an apartment house on the large lot Noel purchased in 1921, where the Baptist Church and Rectory (the former Noel home, (see p. 38) now stand. There were at least two other locations which were eyed for early apartment complexes, the Gartrell homesite in 1915 and the old Warner farm in 1929, where Temple Emanuel is now located.

From the beginning, building regulations enforcement was the most ticklish problem facing the Citizens Committee. In 1938 the Citizens Committee voted to refuse permission to resubdivide lots with less than a 100-foot frontage. By 1945, that restriction and others were set down in the community booklet, "Regulations for the Welfare and Government of Chevy Chase View."

Actually, the regulations and minutes of Chevy Chase View, as small an enclave as it is, would make a voluminous study on socio-political-economic and human behavior. The first garages were required to be detached. Nevertheless, residents built garages under porches or too close to dwellings or to the streets, and sheds and garden houses were constructed improperly. Special Taxing Districts were authorized to appoint building inspectors, and Chevy Chase View utilized them at first.

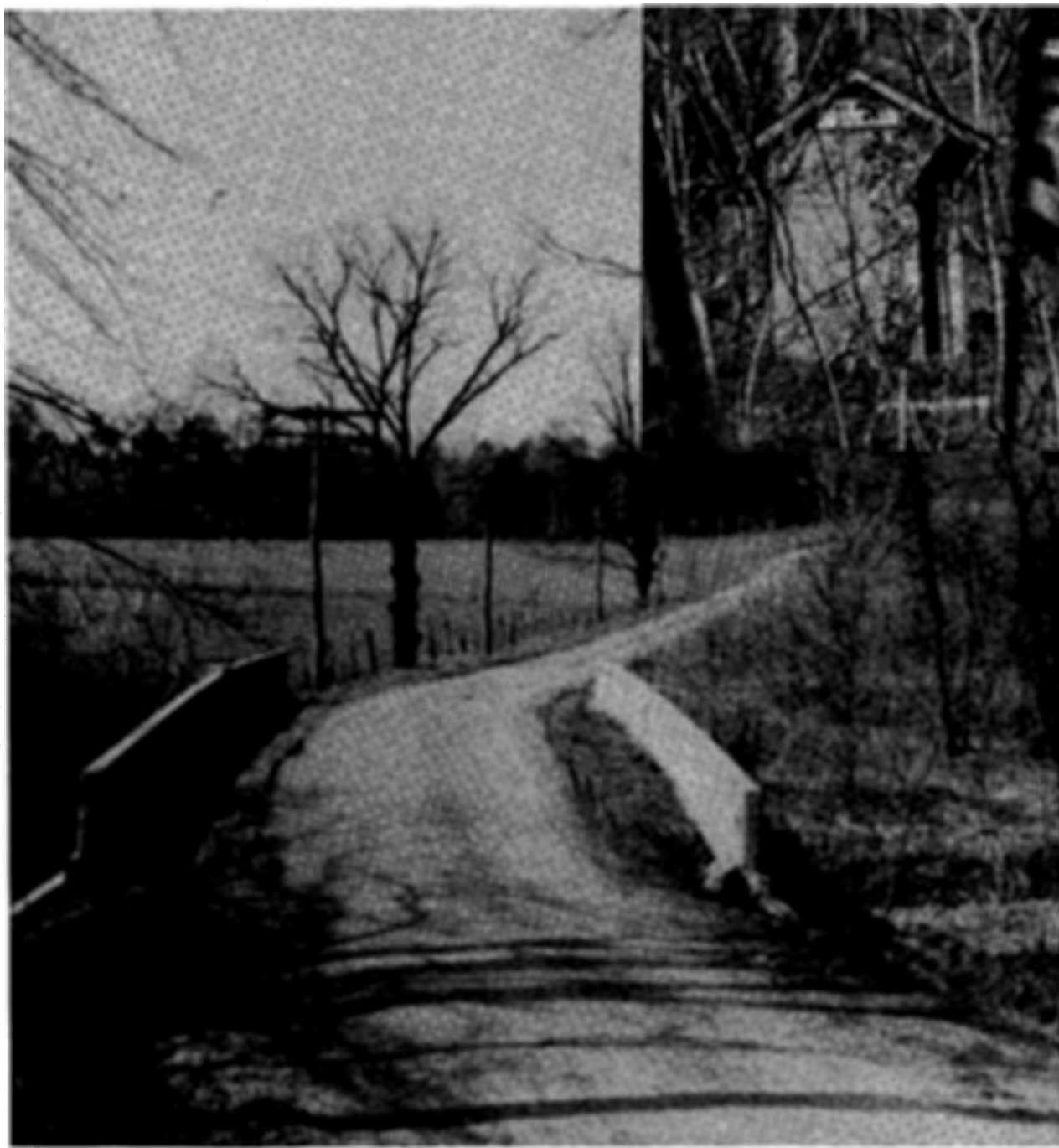
The inspectors also had to see that the homes were built at no lower than the minimally set price. A covenant established by investor Charles Pfluger in 1910 specified a minimal home price of \$2,000 for houses facing Summit Avenue, and \$3,000 for those facing Connecticut Avenue.<sup>24</sup> Harry Martin's covenant, recorded in 1921, set the minimum price at \$4,000 for each house built on his original eighteen acre tract.<sup>25</sup> In 1928, the C.H. Galliher Company's covenants stipulated a minimum price of \$5,000.<sup>26</sup>

The Citizens Committee later altered those figures to \$7,500. Perhaps the political body was cognizant of the problems in Garrett Park. Their Town Council, after developers had built fifty homes selling as low as \$4,950, realized that this had almost doubled the population of Garrett Park and put a strain on services.<sup>27</sup>

In Chevy Chase View, services such as refuse collection were so poor that for a while, trash and tin cans could be dumped on vacant lots and were even used as fill. Most of the streets were impassable in bad weather. As for street lights, not one was installed in Chevy Chase View until the 1960's. Although some residents did not seem to mind a dark village, they felt differently about the lighting on Connecticut Avenue. None seemed to like the night-time ride

through pitch blackness from Chevy Chase Lake at the railroad tracks to Chevy Chase View, a feeling which may have been aroused as a result of the night-time murder of two train depot attendants in the 1930's.

The citizens traveling by streetcar were also in the dark, so the community asked the streetcar company to install a sign with "Chevy Chase View" on each side of the little waiting room at Frederick Street.



*Connecticut Avenue crossing Rock Creek, circa 1916, Courtesy Robert Humphreys.*

*Inset: Streetcar waiting room on Frederick Street. Courtesy Robert Humphreys.*



*When Chevy Chase View residents waited for the streetcar at Chevy Chase Lake, they used a more substantial passenger station. It was also utilized by the trolley company as a division office. For many years, it was the home of "Grandma's Antique Shop." The building was moved to another site in 1980. Photo by Mayvis FitzSimons.*

Around 1927, the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission installed the first water and sewer lines. Mary Warthen said that there was no engineered water supply for the community when she moved here in 1923, and she used water that her father-in-law piped from a nearby spring for his horses and cows. In fact, in 1915 Kensington demurred when asked to supply water to sections of Chevy Chase View.<sup>28</sup>

Surprisingly enough, Chevy Chase View supplied water to a part of Kensington at one point. The well was located on the Cleveland Street property purchased by Dr. McPherson. He remembers that the well was 125 feet deep and housed in a shed about 8 by 15 feet. The pump was operated by a 5 horsepower motor, and a water main, approximately two inches in diameter, extended to a tank on a tower at the Kensington Elementary School ground. Dr. McPherson said that a small pipe from this line also extended to Harry Martin's house, and that his own first water supply in 1923 was tapped from Martin's. Dr. McPherson also said that Harry Martin touted the high quality of the water and told him that people would drive from the city by carriage on summer afternoons for a refreshing drink. Dr. McPherson added that "under such circumstances, almost any water would be refreshing!"

If a major problem such as water supply was solved for some of the people in the early 1930's, there were minor annoyances such as pigs, cows, and the ubiquitous dogs and chickens running at large. Mary Warth-

en said that A.C. Warthen automatically built a chicken coop along with each suburban house. And all the while, the early minutes of Chevy Chase View show discouragement of chicken (and turkey) raising endeavors! Although Mr. Hendry remodeled the old Gartrell barn, where he kept his horses in readiness for the Potomac hunt, it clearly gave the Citizens Committee a problem. Chevy Chase View was not developed to accommodate "farmettes."

Also, in the 1930's as the community was building up, parents were concerned about walking paths for elementary school children, who attended the convenient Kensington Elementary School on Summit Avenue, constructed in 1917.

A convenient public high school was another matter. Students either attended high school in Rockville or in the District of Columbia. Harry Martin, with Chevy Chase View as his base, fought hard to have a high school built in Kensington. In 1913 a school, teaching first and second year high school courses, had opened in rented quarters in Chevy Chase. When monies were furnished to build a permanent high school there, Mr. Martin claimed that it was illegal, primarily because of population settlements and of the convenience of D.C. schools for the border communities.<sup>29</sup>

Harry Martin proved to be a prophet, for lack of enrollment caused the school to revert to 1-7 grades.<sup>30</sup> The lack of a high school near Chevy Chase View was not corrected until 1934 when Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School opened. Nevertheless, Kensington did receive a junior high school, which opened in 1938.



*Kensington Elementary School. Built in 1917. Photo by James Moulton.*



The scene, then, in 1937 was both bright and problem-producing. The school situation, with the Kensington Junior High under construction, had been improved, but the streets were a continuing trial. George Crossette, who moved to Chevy Chase View in 1938 said that mail was dropped off at Saul Road because of the impassable interior streets. There was a sewer trench on Franklin Street which had to be filled in with bluestone and gravel. Residents were clearly disgruntled over the slowness of improvements. For an eight month period in 1937, expenditures for Chevy Chase View were \$517.96; receipts were \$578.91. Enter the Chevy Chase View Citizens Association.

#### Citizens Association:

The Chevy Chase View Citizens Association is devoted not only to the civic welfare of its people, but to fostering greater circles of acquaintances and functioning to further cement them . . . get acquainted with its high ideals and meet the folks who seek to add greater happiness to your life.<sup>31</sup>

The Chevy Chase View Citizens Association was formed in 1937. Its first order of business was to suggest to the existing political body, the Citizens Committee, that elections be held at a public place instead of in a private home, that the election hours be from 7:00-9:00 p.m., and that the first half hour be set aside for nominations. The Association also asked that both organizations provide a judge, with those two judges appointing a third, and that names of the voters be recorded.

Dr. Arnold Scott, who had served on the Citizens Committee since 1932, was the first president of the



Kensington Junior High School. Built in 1938. Courtesy Montgomery County School Board.



*The Post Office may have overcome rain and hail to deliver mail, but it refused to slog it out on Chevy Chase View's muddy streets. Residents living in the interior had to pick up their mail on Saul Road. Courtesy George Crossette.*

Citizens Association, Lawrence Smoot was vice-president, and Lila Meyer was secretary-treasurer. Dues were \$1.00 a year. Meetings were held in the log cabin on Kensington Parkway and later in the junior high school. The Association expressed hope for a Chevy Chase View community house and the Association wanted the Citizens Committee to clarify the rules regarding citizen attendance and input at the meetings when community problems were discussed.

Well, there is little doubt that the residents were disillusioned with the political body. J.S. Elms, Chairman of the Public Service Committee of the Association, prepared a four-page report stating the causes of the "justified wrath" were: the condition of the streets, i.e., the coatings of oil served to eliminate only "everyday dust storms;" the lack of tree plantings; the inadequate sewage disposal and safety for children; and the political body's lack of initiative in obtaining gasoline taxes from the state. What probably impressed the political body was the suggestion that the residents were willing to quintuple the taxes (from 10 cents per \$100 assessment to 50 cents) to obtain those necessities. Mr. Elms pointed out that many of the other Special Taxing Districts were assessing at 30 cents per \$100.

The Association's Garden Committee, dreaming of beauty as most garden clubs do, resolved to suggest for Chevy Chase View trees and plants to "develop street personality, which would by their peculiarities of shape, blooms, and/or fragrance . . . add prestige to our community." When Dr. A.T. McPherson was president of the Civic Association, he expressed a desire that Chevy Chase View be an "azalea" community, just as Kenwood was known for its cherry blossoms.<sup>32</sup>

In 1945 the asphyxiation by gas of all five members of the John Moran Family at 4108 Franklin Street saddened the community. The Citizens Association

There is a tract of land on County Rd. (Cedar Lane), running from above Everett to below Saul Road. It would be large enough for a country club with swimming pool, etc. . . .

Old bill with logo (silhouette) of McKeever's Ice Cream Parlor.

Cedarbrook Club was built in 1955, with residents of Parkwood initiating the groundwork. However, part of the proposed pool property came under the jurisdiction of Chevy Chase View, and our residents played an active part in the battle for a zoning change and the construction of the pool. This joint effort by the citizenry merited an illustrated article in the June 16, 1956, issue of *The Saturday Evening Post*, written by Donald L. Stroetzel of Parkwood, the Chairman of the Planning Committee and the Club's first president.

So Mrs. Auldridge's dream, which "would mean a great deal to the future of our children, and would contribute untold pleasure in a social life for ourselves," did come true. (See also the more detailed remarks concerning the Cedarbrook Club and related activities, starting on page 41).

With such enthusiasm, cohesiveness, and accomplishments on record, what was the fate of the Citizens Association? Harold Swift, one of the last officers, cleaned out his house preparatory to moving west in 1975, and was surprised to find a box of Association records: minute books, bills, and letters. The last piece of correspondence found in Mr. Swift's attic was dated 1950.

Formal termination of the organization could not be located. In the yellowed old records were three war bonds, purchased in 1943. The \$3.00 donation in Mrs. Auldridge's letter was still intact.

The last act of the Citizens Association was to appoint a resident to the Fire Area Board in 1957. When queried, the few people who remember that such a civic group existed in Chevy Chase View feel that it dissolved because the political body was expected to assume the Citizens Association's duties and activities. If so, the description of civic associations in the bicentennial county history echoes:

After World War I, civic associations voiced the community spirit of the suburbs . . .

They had given an air of stability and serious purpose to the youngest subdivision with its rows of maple saplings along unpaved streets.<sup>34</sup>

#### **Citizens Committee (1937-1952):**

Following the suggestion of the Citizens Association in 1937, the Citizens Committee revamped their election procedures. The fundamentals have been followed to this date. Also at the insistence of the Citizens Association, the political body began to send reports to the residents and made the ruling that citizens could come before them with issues of concern.

In 1938 Chevy Chase View set to work on the much discussed and anticipated prospect of being included in the Public Works Administration street paving. Serving on the Citizens Committee at that time was Dr. Herbert Schiefer, who guided the paving project.



*The old stable, "recycled" for utilization as a life guard/manager's office at the Cedarbrook Club, is used in lectures by the Montgomery County Historical Society showing how old structures can be adapted for modern use. Courtesy Cedarbrook Club.*

Dr. Schiefer's hard work changed Chevy Chase View streets from cinder paths to modern paving with proper curbs and gutters. Upon the project's completion a year later, John W. Self was commended for chairing the Committee during "a period of unusual activity." When residents gathered in 1939 to celebrate the paving of the streets and the end of pulling each other out of the mud, it was the last community-wide celebration until 1975. (At that time, the community gathered to usher in the bicentennial year, to honor its oldest resident, Carroll F. Duvall, and the Martin home, and to recognize past Citizens Committee and Council members.) One resident remarked that it was a pity the community did not gather more often for happy occasions, but seemed to meet only when there was a crisis pending.

In 1938, Harry Martin resigned from the Citizens Committee. He was 72 and had devoted nearly twenty years of service to Chevy Chase View. He had ordered many a ton of cinders and gallons of oil for the streets, and was a crusader for better schools and life in general for the residents. An astute Democrat, he was the assistant fuel administrator during President Wilson's administration.

Martin built his second house in Chevy Chase View in 1938, at 4007 Dresden Street, and lived there until it was purchased by John Nolans in 1948.

Harry Martin's niece, Mrs. Evelyn Donnelly, has fond memories of her uncle when she lived next door at the Smoot house and when she returned to Dresden Street for visits after her marriage. Mrs. Donnelly said that Martin was active in Protestant organizations and was a member of the Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church. She said that her uncle was partially deaf, but loved to speak his mind at meetings, and then pretend not to hear his opponents.

Mr. Martin never married, but was greatly interested



*Franklin Street, 1930. Courtesy Dorothy Scott Atkinson.*



*Same scene of Franklin Street, 1977. Photo by Mayvis FitzSimons.*

in young people. However, real estate was his consuming interest. Dr. McPherson wrote, "Harry Martin had a keen sense of real estate values and was consulted by the Chevy Chase Land Company and other large operators before undertaking to develop an area."

Many of the Montgomery County land records bear Martin's name, in the form of "H.M. Martin's Addition To" land plats. His last investment was in the Layhill Road area, where he chose a home for his long time friend, Lawrence A. Woodwell. Mr. Woodwell, as a young man, chauffeured Martin to his various enterprises and meetings for, despite his interest in improved roads, Harry Martin never learned to drive. Peg Cleveland said that Chevy Chase View housewives of the 1930's spent much time driving Mr. Martin to Hyattsville to the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission offices, apparently in the hope that he could expedite sewer and drainage services.<sup>35</sup>

Of all his real estate holdings, and love for land and houses, it appears that Harry Martin loved Chevy Chase View best. Even after he left Chevy Chase View, Martin returned several years to see the Nolan's gardens, which he had laid out. Harry Martin died in a nursing home on Connecticut Avenue in 1956 at the age of ninety-three.<sup>36</sup>

During World War II, the Citizens Committee was



Carroll F. Duvall, born in 1888, was honored as Chevy Chase View's oldest senior citizen at a pre-bicentennial celebration in 1975. Mr. Duvall also served on the Citizens Committee in 1925. Photo by James Moulton.



Honored in 1963 for long years of service to Chevy Chase View was A.L. Merrill, shown on the right. Mr. Merrill served for over a decade as Secretary-Treasurer. To the left is Donald Ryan. Photo by Ralph Gray.

occupied with the war effort and safety of the residents. It supported community scrap drives and local air raid shelters. An air raid post was placed in the home of Committee member W.J. McCausland.<sup>37</sup> The urgency of the war was shown as Committee member Frank Daniel had to resign when he accepted a commission in the Navy. Lt. John Mutchler apparently left hurriedly, as he had to mail his resignation from the Citizens Committee from his base in Rhode Island in 1943.

The firms which had cleaned the streets and cut weeds on vacant lots in Chevy Chase View lost workmen to the war, and Chevy Chase View purchased a tractor, with residents pitching in to do the necessary work. Rabies was still a worry in 1944 and the dogs in the village had to be quarantined. Our political body worked hand in hand with our civic group in their effort to discourage the building of war-time housing units in present day Parkwood. In fact in 1944, Dr. Arnold Scott was again back with the political group and was its chairman. In that year, the Citizens Committee published an impressive fiscal report for the community. Chevy Chase View has always been proud of its solvency and in 1944, with the tax rate still 10 cents per \$100 assessment, the Citizens Committee had taken in \$4,095 in revenue and had expended only \$656.33. However, Dr. Scott's Committee pointed out that expenses would rise after the war when materials could once again be obtained.



After the war, the baby boom and the need for schools were of prime concern. In 1949, the elementary school on Summit Avenue was rebuilt to accommodate the influx of pupils. Further relief was afforded by the new Parkwood School, built in 1952. For a short while, the school was named "Chevy Chase View Elementary School."<sup>38</sup> Then Larchmont was built in 1957.

Along with the need for schools came the urgency for housing in Chevy Chase View. Val Spurney, a civil engineer, was asked to explain pre-fabricated construction, a new concept in housing, to the Citizens Committee.

At first the Citizens Committee discouraged pre-fabricated construction in favor of conventional type construction, as the Committee felt there would be an adverse effect on property values and on the appearance of the community. The minimum approved cost of construction under Chevy Chase View regulations was too low to be effective, so four of the pre-fabricated houses were built. Today, beautifully landscaped and maintained, these homes are a credit to the community.

#### **Council of Chevy Chase View (1947-1980):**

By act of the State legislature in 1947, the Citizens Committee became the Council of Chevy Chase View. A year later the State granted a Home Rule Charter to Montgomery County. The organization, administration, financial management and legal provisions contained in the Chevy Chase View Charter are incorporated in Chapter 64 of the Montgomery County Code (1972). Chapter 64 sets forth the relationship between the County and Council. The County is responsible for levying, collecting and paying to the Council property taxes assessed by the Council, and any special assessments levied by the Council. Regulations adopted by the Council are subject to County approval. Any amendment of the provisions of the Charter requires County Council and State Legislature approval.

In 1948 the good news was that Chevy Chase View would receive some of Maryland's racing taxes. The unhappy news was that the worrisome Dutch Elm disease had struck, and the community lost some of those first trees planted by early settlers.

The year 1950 caused Chevy Chase View concern over the Cold War, and Civil Defense pamphlets entitled "Survival Under Atomic Attack" were given to residents. In 1951 E. Brooke Lee, Jr. was appointed Chief of Civil Defense for the community, but Mr. Lee moved away and was replaced by Gordon Lederer. Block captains were appointed and attended the Civil Defense school at Olney. Dr. A.T. McPherson had the old well on his property made operable in case of need. A well-driller pulled out the large remaining pipe and installed a hand pump. Dr. McPherson

said that it came in handy on at least two occasions when water supply was interrupted.

Churches began to eye Chevy Chase View lots as early as 1952 when the Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church of Kensington acquired property at Glenridge and Gartrell and built a manse there. In 1954, the Kensington Baptist Church purchased the Francis Regis Noel property on Connecticut Avenue and constructed their church, and the Noel's beautiful English Tudor home became the rectory.

On the attic walls of the former Noel home are murals depicting pyramids, mosques, camels, and interesting Egyptian hieroglyphics. When the house was renovated by the Baptist Church in 1972, the murals caused much curiosity and were investigated by the minister, the Reverend Carter Morell. Only one of the neighbors, Mrs. Dorothy Bohannon, remembered seeing the paintings. She said that Mrs. Noel, whose native language was French and who traveled widely, had a friend paint the murals.

Mr. Noel was president of the Columbia Historical Society, a writer of note, and an internationally known attorney. He and Mrs. Noel were married in 1924 and shortly afterward built their Chevy Chase View home, which they called "Selsdon."<sup>39</sup> Mr. Noel died in 1952. After selling the property to the Kensington Baptist Church, Mrs. Noel left Chevy Chase View. She later drowned off the coast of Nigeria.



*A well located near Cleveland Street supplied water to Kensington. Dr. A.T. McPherson installed a hand pump for use in emergencies. Photo by James Moulton.*



The next religious establishments to locate in Chevy Chase View were Temple Emanuel, which purchased land in 1955, followed by the Episcopal Church in 1956. The Temple, constructed in the Kensington Gardens section of Chevy Chase View, settled the matter of the several attempts to construct an apartment building on this land.

The minutes of the Council show that the 1950's brought a mingling of both modern and old problems. The Council won a judicial decision upholding its right to enforce the building restrictions of Chevy Chase View. Yet, old-fashioned agrarian problems, such as horses being kept on the Hendry property, cows escaping from the Saul farm and roaming the streets of Chevy Chase View, and roosters at the Mork house crowing early in the morning and disturbing the neighborhood, were taken up by the Council.

In 1953, council members began to receive \$10.00 per meeting they attended. The Council ruled that "professional men" were allowed to have an office in their homes, but turned down a request from a boy's baseball team who wanted to call themselves the "Chevy Chase Viewites."

Connecticut Avenue underwent its major widening in the late 1950's, displacing several of the houses. Cedar Lane was widened next, with the National Institutes of Health offering to underwrite one-half the cost of the section from Old Georgetown Road to Wisconsin Avenue. When the widening was completed in the mid-1960's, Chevy Chase View, following a referendum, paid for the cost of constructing side-

walks and driveway aprons abutting Chevy Chase View properties.

In the 1960's, international crises, such as the building of the Berlin Wall and the Russian attempt to base missiles in Cuba, were of local as well as national concern. In 1961, the Council gave permission to build a fallout shelter at 4000 Dresden Street. In that same year the Mork house, which had been abandoned, was purchased and renovated. The west side of the house faces Summit Avenue. Its former expanse of front lawn swept down to Saul Road, and its rear acreage extended to Glenridge Street. However, both the front and the rear lawn became a site for new homes. The former Mork house was the only "haunted" house for the children on Halloween.

At the 1962 annual meeting of the Council, residents asked that a quarterly newsletter be distributed to residents to keep them informed of community business. A proposal for a nursing home on the undeveloped Hendry property did not come to pass; and the property was used for new homes.

The spurt of construction in the 1960's and the widening of Connecticut Avenue and Cedar Lane (particularly the latter, which flattened out a hill and left residents in a sunken area) aggravated drainage problems. Later, the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission solved some of the major problems by installing proper storm drainage systems.

In 1964 Charlene Rawlins was the first woman elected to the Council. In 1966, the Montgomery County



*Connecticut Avenue before it was widened in the late 1950's. View looking north at Franklin Street. Courtesy Mr. and Mrs. Tom Jackson.*

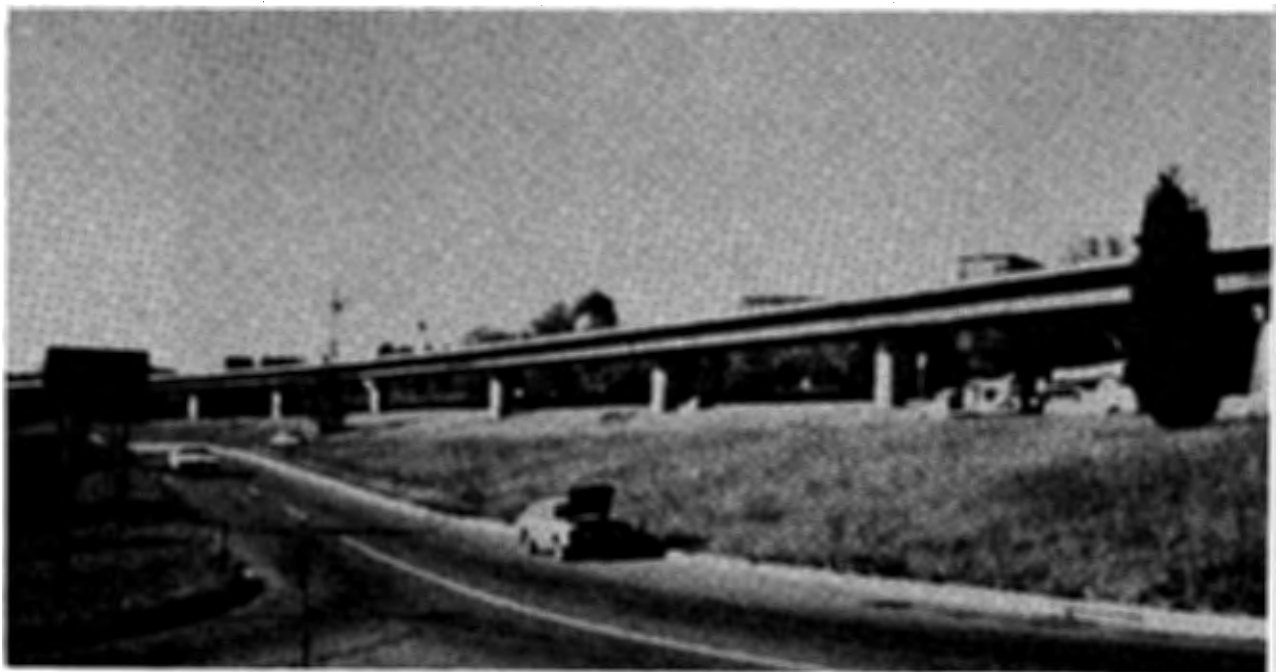
Council enacted a resolution which would enable it to revoke and rescind approval of our building regulations when they came into conflict with county zoning ordinances. Chevy Chase View pointed to the 1957 court decision in which our local regulations were held to be valid.<sup>40</sup> Thus, we gained stronger autonomy in governing our own affairs, at least in this instance.

During the 1960's, especially after passage of the 1968 Civil Rights Act, increased attention was focused on problems of segregation and unfair treatment of minorities. Montgomery County established a Human Relations Commission to look into acts of discrimination. It came as a surprise to the Council to see a column in the *Washington Post* chastising Chevy Chase View for alleged racial discrimination, as evidenced by the printing of a covenant in our booklet of regulations. The covenant prohibited the conveyance of property to non-Caucasians.<sup>41</sup> When the County investigated, the Council pointed out that the covenants were not regulations or ordinances adopted by the Council. The Council further pointed out that the introduction to our covenants explained that the covenant in question was invalidated by a landmark U.S. Supreme Court decision in 1948. The Council also noted that a black family already resided in Chevy Chase View. The County ceased its investigation.



*The problem with yesteryear's garage is that it is too small for today's automobiles. The Cox property at 4117 Saul Road. Photo by Mayvis FitzSimons.*

During the 1970's, transportation routes and increasing urbanization posed some problems. Despite the roar of traffic on Connecticut Avenue and Cedar Lane, much of Chevy Chase View has managed to remain quiet. The Council has been alert to represent the community when proposals have been made by



*To the west of Chevy Chase View is the Metro line following Rockville Pike. Photo by Mayvis FitzSimons.*

the County or other jurisdictions that would increase our traffic load. One such proposal would have brought the Beltway closer. Another would have extended Summit Avenue northward across the railroad line to reduce traffic congestion in Kensington, with much likelihood that our streets would carry more commuter traffic.<sup>42</sup> Neither materialized, but Metro construction is a reality on our west as the line proceeds alongside Rockville Pike.

The good news concerning transportation routes is that the County plans to build 331 miles of bike commuter/recreation paths, some in our vicinity.<sup>43</sup> Concern over vanishing historic landmarks and careless use of land prompted Planner Frederick Gutheim to lay out a series of historic trails, the majority of which can be used by bikers.<sup>44</sup>

In 1976, a special town meeting was called to discuss whether the Council should be permitted to authorize variances in the application of our building regulations. Those residents who attended, as well as a few who sent letters, voted emphatically for the Council to retain and enforce the present codes. Chevy Chase View has always been unique, not only because of its architectural mixture, but also because of its deep set-backs and wide frontages.

In 1977, the Maryland Commission on Intergovernmental Cooperation published a "Summary of Findings" for the Maryland General Assembly (Resolution No. 80), which called for a study of "the problems of Special Taxing Districts and their creation, administration, and termination." One of the proposals recommended the freezing of monies received from local income tax and state revenues. Another proposal was to bring the 257 Special Taxing Districts throughout Maryland under control of the counties, to change their names to "Subordinate Service Areas," and to treat them as county agencies. There may well be other legislative proposals against Special Taxing Districts in the future.

The Special Taxing District of Friendship Heights won a landmark court decision allowing them a voice in controlling density and traffic patterns in their jurisdiction.<sup>45</sup> It is quite possible that the advocates of development and zoning changes would like to see less power on a grassroots level.

Another future concern is to ensure the establishment of the oldest settlement of Chevy Chase View as a historic district. In 1977 the Montgomery County Planning Board appointed an Advisory Committee on Historic Sites and Districts, for the purpose of designating the county's historic landmarks to be included in a master plan of sites. Also in 1977, Kensington formed a historical society with one of its goals to establish an archive for historical papers.

In 1976, for Chevy Chase View to become a registered bicentennial community, we had to fulfill three themes - heritage, festival, and horizon. This publication sets forth our heritage; the community held two galas, one which honored our early settlers; and the future theme was expressed by a photographic record of our homes. A publication such as this, by giving definition to the community, could possibly bring forth renewed interest in our past and recognition of what we are and can be. Chevy Chase View has a proud heritage.

Chevy Chase View was proud to be declared a bicentennial community by President Gerald Ford and the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration; by Louise Gore and the Maryland Bicentennial Commission; and by Achilles Tuchtan and the Montgomery County Bicentennial Commission.

Serving on Chevy Chase View's Bicentennial Committee were: Mayvis FitzSimons, Chairperson, Madelyn Royal, Co-Chairperson, Dr. Arria McGinniss, Judge Joseph M. Mathias, Carroll F. Duvall, Christine Garber, Rev. William Moore, Rev. Carter Morell, Cloyd D. Gull, Douglas Seeley, Carroll Creitz, Mary Jane Saylor, and Elizabeth Wong.

## CHEVY CHASE VIEW HOMES\*

The architectural panel selected the homes in Chevy Chase View which best represent a particular architectural style or which represent the architectural diversity of the community. Slides of homes were viewed by panel members together and separately.

Seven homes commensurate with the history and development of suburban architecture were chosen by the panel. The oldest existing house in Chevy Chase View, at 4011 Dresden Street, was cited by the panel for its historical value. The house was built and occupied from 1920 to 1923 by Harry Martin.

The Martin house is a Georgian-Colonial with a portico breaking up the flat lines that are indicative of Colonial or Federal architecture. The portico has two Doric columns with a plain entablature. The house is built of weatherboard on a red brick foundation and has a gable roof.

A small east wing has pilasters separating tall conservatory-type windows over a panel of windows near floor level. The windows and a doorway are on the west side, but the north side of the wing has paneling in place of the lower windows. Pilasters serve as quoining.

Louvered shutters are at the sash windows on the main section of the house and the entry has a glass-paneled door with sidelights. There is an exterior chimney on the west side of the house, flanked by fan-shaped windows at the upper level. The chimney on the east side is on the slope of the roof.

The house, with its deep set-back from the street, has known three owners since Harry Martin. He sold it to the Wells family just before World War II. Mrs. Howard Twilley purchased the house in 1952 and sold it to her son, William, and his wife, Susan, in 1979.



4011 Dresden Street. The oldest existing house in Chevy Chase View built in 1918. Photo by Mayvis FitzSimons.

*\*This section was written by Mayvis FitzSimons and was based on the findings of an architectural panel consisting of David Almy, AIA (American Institute of Architects), Lelia Imas, AIA, and Mike Dwyer, an historian with the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.*

The panel found the houses in the 9000 and 10000 blocks of Connecticut Avenue (on the east side) to be outstanding as a transitional type of architecture, a type built between the Victorian period and the modern period, and a style very close to Maryland's "farmhouse" design. The house at 10013 Connecticut Avenue was particularly cited by the panel.

The house has a hip roof. The front dormers and the dormers on each side also have hip roofs. The lower portion of the house is of clapboard and the upper portion is shingled.

The porch has tapering wooden columns which are placed on large stuccoed piers. There is a balustrade with stock style balusters. An exterior chimney is located on the north side of the house. The house is surrounded with well-scaled and maintained plantings.

Chevy Chase View's "farmhouse" styles, adapted for suburban living, were built in the early 1920's. The house at 10013 Connecticut Avenue was purchased by Henry M. Milburn upon its completion. His daughter, Elinor, owns the house today.

The panel felt that the bungalow style of architecture is typified by the house at 4104 Everett Street. The bungalow, popular from 1890-1940, was an efficient way to build small, one-family homes. They were quite a contrast to the large, ornamental Victorian homes, built to house several generations of a family.

The bungalow style at 4104 Everett Street is of narrow clapboard with a stone pattern masonry trim. It has an east-west ridge line with a large gable in the east portion. Three rectangular windows are set in the gable, which also forms the porch roof for half the porch. The porch runs the length of the facade, with the roofed section having a balustrade with a double row of balusters and the unroofed portion having a parapet of the dressed masonry.

A small gable protrudes from the west portion of the roof. Twelve small-paned windows are set in a double row in this gable. The house has a masonry foundation with the same stone pattern carried out in the exterior chimney, in the parapets beside the front steps, and in the pier which supports a square wooden column, which in turn lends support to the porch architrave. All the rake boards in the gables have decorative consoles.

The bungalow was built by David Grossnickle, circa 1923. It was purchased by the Long family and sold in the early 1950's to Mr. and Mrs. J. Milton Fisher, who own it today.

The house at 4025 Glenridge Street was chosen by the architectural panel as an example of the diversity of architecture in Chevy Chase View. The panel felt that, of all the other houses, this house stands alone and deserves recognition for its beauty and scale.

The house at 4025 Glenridge Street is a three-story brick and clapboard with a row of dentils in the cornice. Dentils are also the decorative element in the



*10013 Connecticut Avenue. This house is representative of the transitional period of architecture between the Victorian era and the modern. Photo by James Moulton.*



*Chevy Chase View's most outstanding bungalow, located at 4104 Everett Street. Photo by Mayvis FitzSimons.*



*4025 Glenridge Street. This house represents the diversity and beauty of the architecture in Chevy Chase View. Photo by Mayvis FitzSimons.*

frieze of the portico, which is supported by two Doric columns and two pilasters. Double pilasters are on the right in the east wing and single pilasters are on the left. This east wing has a second story porch with a balustrade.

The second story windows have lintels with key-stones in the center; the first floor windows have key-stones above the mullions. The doorway has side lights and a fanlight with tracery. The entry is accentuated by two pilasters. The same entry with a fanlight is repeated in the small one-story east wing.

The three pedimented dormers have lunettes, and a lunette is placed in the far west side of the house. There are louvered shutters and a large rectangular chimney is at the ridge line.

The driveway is flanked by two brick columns topped by large spheres, with stepped, curving parapets leading from the columns. An Art Nouveau wrought iron gate adds a further decorative element.

The house was built in the middle 1920's by Walton Hendry on almost the same spot as the Gartrell farmhouse. The house has since known three owners: Roger Mudd, J.T. Ellington, and Dr. J. Patrick Caulfield.

The house at 10110 Summit Avenue was selected for its Gothic appearance and scale. It is of brick and

has a gable roof. Although the chimney is asymmetrical, the remaining lines of this house are in perfect balance and symmetry. Verticality is provided by the three levels, which include an attic with tall dormers.

The first floor windows, three on each side of the entry, are separated by white mullions. Matching the mullions is white wooden trim on the pedimented dormers. The entry and windows have lintels with the brick laid vertically.

A decorative element is the four leaf clover design on the shutters and on the window boxes. The portico is composed of a brick Roman arch, with side arches. The portico is topped by a steeply pedimented gable with returns. The house has a belt course, laid with vertically placed brick, which again accentuates the height. Compact wings on either side of the house prevent a horizontal spread. One of the wings is a porch with brick piers and a wooden balustrade.

The house was built in 1929 by Edith and Leonard Poole and is at present owned by Doris and Jack Terry, who purchased it in 1956.

Between 1900 and World War II, many mini-estates were built in Montgomery County as retreats or for year-round purposes. The architectural panel noted that Chevy Chase View had a few homes in this category, especially before land surrounding the homes





*10110 Summit Avenue. This house was cited for its Gothic appearance and scale. Photo by James Moulton.*

was sold.

The panel selected the home at 9826 Connecticut Avenue, built by the Goode family, circa 1935, to represent the mini-estate category. The home, sited on a hill, is of Spanish Revival architectural style.

The house is stucco over structural tile, with many ornamental details in wrought iron. The gabled roof has Mediterranean tile and the vent ports are of smaller tiles laid horizontally.

The entry has a canopy with a tile roof. The window sills are of red brick and the doorway is an arch of red brick. The vertical board door has a thumb latch and decorative iron hinges. A small window in the door is covered with an iron grill. The window above the canopy has diamond-shaped leaded glass, as does a small window to the left of the entry way. Wide brick steps lead to a flagstone porch with brick edging and an iron railing.

The second story window on the right side has an iron balcony with a curved railing, and the left second story window is covered with a gracefully curved grill.

The south portion of the house has a porch with two arches. The arches spring from a center Ionic Romanesque capital and column. A second story porch, directly above, has an iron railing. A long, arcaded breezeway, which extends from the porch has molded

small columns; the arches spring from Corinthian capitals which contain an eagle motif. The breezeway ends at a three-car garage, and leading from the garage is a tall stuccoed wall with a niche. The wall also extends from the right side of the house; a tall iron gate is set into the arched opening between the house and the stepped wall.

The large end chimney has horizontally placed tile flues and a tile gable. An iron initial "G" is set in the chimney.

A brick retaining wall is placed at the edge of the lawn near Connecticut Avenue. At the driveway entrance are two large square brick columns topped with a large wooden finial. On one of the plinths, "Goode Place" is carved, and on the other is "301 Connecticut Avenue," the first number assigned the house.

The former Goode house was the scene of visits by the Roosevelt family and officials in the Roosevelt administration while James Roosevelt leased the property in 1941-42. Ann and Stephen Parker purchased the house from Gloria Goode Smith and Dr. Harvey R. Gralnick, the present owner, purchased it from the Parkers.

The house at 4109 Franklin Street was chosen for the Colonial Revival category of architecture. The



*The Spanish Revival house at 9826 Connecticut Avenue,  
Photo by James Moulton.*

panel particularly noted the absence of 19th Century embellishments so often placed on Colonial Revivals: porticos, stained glass, or swan's neck pediments.

The house at 4109 Franklin Street is of sand finish brick laid in Flemish bond with a grapevine joint bond. The windows have flat lintels, with cut and ground arches laid in white mortar. Paneled wooden shutters are at the windows in the main bay, as well as in the west wing. The same type of shutters, elongated, also flank the entry, which has a fourpaned transom. The east wing consists of a gabled porch supported by square columns with the flooring of brick.

The tall chimney has several belt courses. The cornice has a row of dentils, and there are three gabled dormers with tongue and groove siding which flowers the rake of the roof. A brick walk leads to a brick pad at the entry.

The house was designed by the architectural firm of Schreier, Patterson, and Worland. It was built in 1941-42 by Willard Warthen for Elizabeth and Allan Graeff. Mrs. Graeff continues to reside there.

One category selected by the architectural panel was the Cape Cod style. The house at 4205 Glenridge Street was cited for its use of materials and simple detail. It has a brown shingle exterior, a centrally placed entry and a slightly off-center chimney.

The Cape Cod design originated with the compact New England Cottage with a central chimney placement breaking up the boxlike appearance.

On the Cape Cod house at 4205 Glenridge Street, gabled dormers are placed directly over the first floor windows, which have louvered shutters. The entry has fluted pilasters on either side of the doorway, which has a paneled door with four decoratively cut panes of glass in the upper section. A further decorative touch is the row of dentils in the cornice. A brick walk leads to the entry.

The house was built by the William Porter family in 1946. Donald and Marian Burros (Mrs. Burros was the well-known Food Editor of the *Washington Post*) purchased the house from the Porters in 1960 and sold it to Debbie Dugan in 1965. Ms. Dugan at present resides in Texas, and the house is rented.



*The Colonial Revival at 4109 Franklin Street was cited for its purity of design and scale. Photo by James Moulton.*



*The Cape Cod design at 4205 Glenridge Street was selected for its use of materials and symmetry. Photo by Mayvis FitzSimons.*

## GARDENING AND GARDENERS IN CHEVY CHASE VIEW\*

### Part I\*

Gardening and gardeners in Chevy Chase View have a rich history and a promising future. Prior to its development, Chevy Chase View was farm territory with many trees, attractive open spaces, rolling terrain, and fertile soil. As lots were sold and houses built, residents created a community featuring broad lawns, solid foundation plantings, specimen trees and shrubs, and appropriate annuals and perennials, all easily visible from our streets. Residents matched their plantings to the varied styles of their homes, creating a pleasing diversity of landscaping. While Chevy Chase View never used a single tree or flower as a community mark, like Kenwood's cherries, our street plantings featured the cherries on Dresden Street and the maples on Franklin Street. Other plantings stimulated by our Citizens Association, emphasized the use of crabapples and other ornamentals.

Now, fifty years later, many plantings have matured. Some, indeed, are overgrown; and as new residents move in, they need to clear spaces anew, as the pioneers cleared away natural brush and unwanted trees. Hedges and foundation plantings now have to be disciplined; choices made among specimens demonstrating too eager togetherness; and new plant materials brought in to create new landscape values, blended with the best of the old. As trees have grown, shade has replaced sun, and gardeners once reveling in sun-loving plants now feature such shade lovers as impatiens, begonias, plantain lilies, and ericaceous shrubs.

Many of the gardeners have matured too. Some have moved away; others are content to maintain the structures of their plantings and care for their lawns. Still others, however, savor the tasks and joys of new initiatives.

For a long time Chevy Chase View maintained its rural feel; horses roamed the Hendry acres, and the wild cherries at the top of his hill signaled spring from Gartrell to Connecticut. Many lots stayed undeveloped, and like Margaret Emerson's bird sanctuary at the corner of Glenridge and Cedar Lane, a few keep their wildness today. Before Cedar Lane was widened, residents gathered wild strawberries from its eastern verge. But with the paving of streets and the development of almost all lots, the community is now a suburb featuring plantings common to this Greater Washington area. Evergreen and deciduous azaleas and magnolias; native and exotic rhododendrons, boxwoods, dogwoods, and hollies; dwarf and full-sized maples; giant tulip poplars, sycamores

and many oaks; as well as cedars, deodars, junipers and hemlocks, abound.

Such plantings characterize our properties as viewed from the street. But in the rear of our houses, there is much more, where our gardening buffs have lavished creative energies. Here are the vegetable gardens (although in the Victory Garden era, and even later during the 1973 energy crisis, some front yards were put to vegetables too). These gardens feature the latest and best varieties, mostly hybrids bred for prime flavor and texture, resistance to diseases and pests, and best performance in our climate and soil. Our gardeners maintain the best of the old, too. In our back yards we have specialized or spread our interests wide, as Harrison Haller has grown more than 100 varieties of gladioli; Dr. Earle White, his famous peonies; and Lloyd Dye his exhibition dahlias.

The lists of distinguished growers and interesting cultivars are long. Chevy Chase View gardeners have grown almost every sort of tree, plant, or bush generally found in this area, and also some interesting exotics. Lloyd Dye has seven cryptomerias, about 30-35 feet tall. Our gardeners have brought plants from their places in the foothills, the mountains, and the seashore to grace their plantings of native wildflowers, trees and shrubs. They have tested the limits of hardiness and viability, bringing in camellias and hibiscus from the far South, lilacs and birches from the North, iris from the West, and roses, lilies and daylilies from all over.

Some of our gardeners came to be known for specialties: Fred Lang on Everett Street for his roses (as was his wife Evelyn for flower arranging and judging); the Manuelians on Franklin Street for their tree peonies and iris. Some were known for their outstanding skill and efficiency, like the Schiefers on Franklin Street, possessors of a weed-free lawn long before modern herbicides. Some plants came to be community features, like the thirty-foot Catawba rhododendron in Eleanor Haynes' front yard, or the Wings' wisteria vine, or the Shooks' winged euonymus or Judge Mathias' illuminated cherry. Residents of the community, whether walkers, joggers or riders, came to know these specimens and to enjoy them as they went through the changes of the year, exhibiting beauty of leaf, flower, and form.

Some of our gardeners specialized in making the most of available sun and shade, like the Holbrooks who for years have produced a succession of flowers and vegetables on their sunny fence facing Cedar Lane, while the rest of their place lay in shade. Or like the Allens and Schooleys on Connecticut Avenue, who, profiting from added space as Connecticut Avenue was widened, grew their dahlias, gladioli, Little Compton trailing roses, and chrysanthemums facing the street, softening the harshness of a major artery passing through the community.

\*This section was written by Colonel Charles A.H. Thomson long-time resident of Chevy Chase View. Colonel Thomson is a political scientist and horticultural hobbyist.

Our gardeners have been mindful of the needs of birds, with ample stands of privet and pyracantha and berried trees to provide food in winter and shelter in summer. Mindful of their needs or not, our gardeners now have to cope with raccoons and opossums, as well as the too-prolific squirrels and occasional chipmunks, taking up residence with us as their natural habitats are being reduced by building elsewhere. Nuisances at times they may be, but they do help us maintain our rural feeling!

Our churches have contributed to horticultural beauty. The changing plantings of annuals at the Episcopal Church are of never-ending interest, as are their Chinese dogwoods, boxwoods, hollies, and roses. The Baptist Church displays not only spectacular trees, unveiled by the widening of Connecticut Avenue and the development of the Noel property, but also the diligent propagation of plants under mason jars, easily visible from the street. Temple Emanuel now boasts a spectacular sweep of lawn, with modest tasteful plantings near the buildings.

Chevy Chase View gardeners have not only cultivated their gardens; they have contributed to the roster

of presidents and members of horticultural organizations and sparked their activities. Some residents helped to develop Fern Valley at the National Arboretum; some helped plant and label interesting trees and shrubs along Kensington Parkway. Several are working with the specialists at nearby Brookside Gardens. More important, our gardeners have always been more than generous in sharing their knowledge, experience, and plant materials with gardeners throughout the area.

Chevy Chase View is now being blessed with an influx of new and younger families, buying houses from earlier residents departed or deceased. The new arrivals are bringing new enthusiasms, new energies, and new tastes to the redevelopment of their homes and grounds. They, along with older residents, are taking full advantage of cultivars developed since Chevy Chase View was started. They are trying and testing new fertilizers and pesticides, and applying new techniques of gardening, building on the best established practice and the advice of old-timers.

Indeed, Chevy Chase View has a rich horticultural past, and prospects of an equally rich future.



*The lush greenery of the back yards on Glenrose Street as seen from the Manion patio at 4213 Glenrose Street. Pictured in the photo is the late Dr. William Manion, a world authority on the pathology of cardiovascular diseases. Courtesy Mrs. Billie Manion.*

## Part II\*

### Trees, Shrubs, and Flowers

#### Cedars:

When County Road was renamed Cedar Lane in 1952, it became Chevy Chase View's first street to be named for a tree. It could hardly have received a more appropriate name, for "farm road Cedars," the remnants of which a sharp eye can detect, used to grace the entrance roads to old farms.

#### White Pines:

There is a splendid cathedral of white pine trees, 50 feet tall, at the rear of the property of Lillian and Carroll Creitz. These trees were planted in 1931 by Dr. Archibald McPherson, one of the early residents of Chevy Chase View, who moved away in 1977. These trees came from the Maryland State Tree Farm, then at Paint Branch, just north of the University of Maryland campus at Route 1. They were mailed as 3-5 inch seedlings to the Kensington Post Office. Two of the seedlings were removed to the front of the property of Edwin P. Laug, 4205 Dresden Street, when that house was built in 1935. These trees, equally tall, are still standing but, unfortunately, somewhat side-trimmed to accommodate the power wires.

#### Sugar Maples:

Around 1942, I planted sugar maples along most of the streets of Chevy Chase View, except Summit Avenue, Dresden and Cleveland Streets and Saul Road. The trees were obtained from the same Paint Branch Tree Farm. The trees were about four-to-six-foot switches and were transported in bundles of forty in the rumble seat of my Model A Ford Roadster. Generally, the trees have survived well. They are now thirty-eight years old, some having reached impressive size.

#### Dogwoods:

Dogwoods were planted on Cleveland Street in the early 1930's. Dr. McPherson was instrumental in their planting. Dogwoods, both planted and native, pink and white, are abundant throughout Chevy Chase View.

\*Dr. Edwin P. Laug, the author of this section, is a retired pharmacologist and biochemist with the Food and Drug Administration and has developed extensive plantings at his residence and has provided plants to many area residents. As a member of the Council of Chevy Chase View, Dr. Laug advised and implemented the early plantings for the Chevy Chase View rights-of-way.

#### Flowering Cherry and Crabapples:

The larger flowering cherry trees on Dresden Street between Connecticut and Summit Avenues, were given by Dr. David Fairchild, a well-known plant explorer. The trees date from 1935.

Dr. David Fairchild married Marion Bell, the daughter of Alexander Graham Bell, and they built a home, "In-The-Woods," on Spring Valley Road in North Chevy Chase. On their grounds the Fairchilds experimented with many varieties of plants and trees and Dr. Fairchild was instrumental in having the cherry trees planted around the Tidal Basin. His book, *The World Was My Garden*, tells of some of the experiments carried on at "In-The-Woods." (The Fairchild house and grounds are now owned by a recreation association. An organization called "Friends of In-The-Woods" has been formed to have the house and grounds designated as a historic landmark).

Many flowering cherry and crabapple trees are still on private property throughout the subdivision. Some of the small trees on Dresden Street were obtained by the old Chevy Chase View Citizens Association and distributed for planting about 1948. Many others were purchased privately and grace our off-street plantings.

#### Hybrid Chestnut:

In 1939, the writer came upon a small greenhouse at Quaint Acres Nursery, now in the White Oak area near the Naval Ordnance Laboratory. Here he purchased for 25 cents a small potted hybrid chestnut tree seedling, a cross between the native American chestnut (*Castanea dentata*) and the Chinese (*Castanea mollissima*), which is totally blight resistant. The hybrid tree is about 80% resistant to the blight. It has grown to a height of 40 feet with a trunk measuring 10 inches at the base.

Each year, 72 flower pots are planted with the nuts from this tree, and the seedlings grown under a protective wire cage. When the trees sprout in the spring, and attain a height of about one foot, they are advertised as give-aways in the local *Advertiser*. There is a surprising interest in this project. Over the years at least 500 new hybrid trees have found homes in the area. Residents of Chevy Chase View have, of course, first claim.

In addition to 10 hybrid chestnut trees which each year bear a sizable crop of good edible nuts, there are now flourishing at 4205 Dresden Street and adjoining lot about two dozen varieties of hardwood trees, all started about 40 years ago as seedlings or small switches. There are beeches, elms, sycamores, five different varieties of oak, and a few trees less common to this area such as the paw paw, raintree, German linden and hackberry.



### Azaleas:

During the late 1930's and early 1940's, Dr. Guy E. Yerkes on Dresden Street bred and raised azaleas from seeds and cuttings. He was a plant specialist at the Ornamental Plant Section at the Beltsville Station of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. His home was at the top of the Dresden Street hill. Before a second house was built on the lot to the west of the Yerkes house, the half acre of land was devoted to azaleas. Along with Robert L. Pryor of Beltsville, he bred and introduced some seventy varieties, one named for him. Yerkes and Pryor developed a race of true genetic dwarfs.

### Flowers:

Some of the pioneer dwellers on the north side of Dresden Street between Connecticut and Summit Avenues (about 1921) were the Elmses, Whites, and Harry Martin. Mr. Martin, the developer of Chevy Chase View, had a prolific greenhouse behind his home. His neighbor to the east was Dr. Earle B. White, a dentist. Dr. White and his brother-in-law, J.S. Elms, who lived at the northeast corner of Dresden and Summit, cultivated peonies. At one time about four acres were in cultivation. Dr. White not only grew the most renowned peonies that were commercially available, but he also won national fame for his peony breeding. Dr. David Shakow purchased the White home in 1961 and furnished information which stated that out of 500 crosses per year, made over an eight-year period, Dr. White produced the near-impossible, a yellow hybrid herbaceous peony.



*Peonies, including the prize-winning "Claire de Lune," hybridized by the late Dr. Earle White at 4001 Dresden Street. Courtesy Dr. David Shakow.*



*Hybrid, disease-free chestnut tree at 9900 Summit Avenue propagated by Dr. Laug. Photo by James Moulton.*

Dr. White first saw it bloom in 1944, and gave it the name "Claire de Lune." Dr. White was awarded the American Home Achievement Medal for "probably the outstanding accomplishment in hybridizing since peonies have been grown." The Iris Society awarded Dr. White its Silver Medal for his experimentation with iris. He also grew orchids.

Along with the peony venture, Dr. White developed a lovely wild flower garden replete in the spring with daffodils and tulips in the depressed area in the front of his home on Dresden Street. In addition, until 1939 he cultivated peonies on a second lot, a half acre fronting Summit Avenue. Later Mabel and William C. Yokum built a home on this lot. Now this fertile soil supports a beautiful garden. Mrs. Yokum's daughter and son-in-law, Joyce and Lloyd Dye, have filled the lot with a display of azaleas, prize-winning dahlias and evergreens. (Mr. Dye is a past president of the National Capital Dahlia Society).

Starting small, but gradually enlarging, there is now a wild flower garden next to 4205 Dresden Street. It contains at least 500 tulips and daffodils in addition to snowdrops, crocuses and a variety of common wild flowers such as blood-root, spring beauties and hepatica. These have been gathered from the woods in Montgomery County every year in the spring. The gathering continues as well as additional bulb plantings.



*Spring bulbs and wildflowers garden on the Laug property.  
Photo by Dr. Laug.*

## A HISTORICAL SKETCH OF CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH\*

The first step toward the establishment of an Episcopal Church in Kensington was taken on August 21, 1898 when 25 Episcopalians came together to start a mission. They met in what was then known as Mannakee's Hall on the second floor of a store then standing on the present site of Mizell's Lumber and Hardware store opposite the Kensington Railroad Station.

About a year later, the mission bought a building from St. Paul's Methodist Church at St. Paul Street and Plyers Mill Road, and held the first service there on March 31, 1899. With the purchase of this structure, the mission became official and was put under the jurisdiction of the Silver Spring Parish.

The first minister of the mission was the Rev. David Barr of Washington, who traveled to Kensington regularly by train to conduct services. The Rev. Barr served the group from 1898 until 1907. Two other ministers, the Rev. W.J.D. Thomas, 1908-10, and the Rev. Parish B. Stauffer, served the mission before steps were taken to make it an independent parish. This move was made during the rectorship of the Rev. George W. Atkinson, and in 1913 Christ Church Parish came into being. Members of the first vestry were M.O. Chance, George Peter, F.A. Birgfeld, A.F. McKeever, Arthur Williams, J.M.S. Bowie, C.W. Clum and Dr. Warren Price. The first senior warden was Dr. H.P. Trowbridge and the first junior warden,

Dawson Williams. Dr. Atkinson left in 1914 and was succeeded by the Rev. W.E. Callender, who stayed two years. During his stay, the parish bought a rectory.

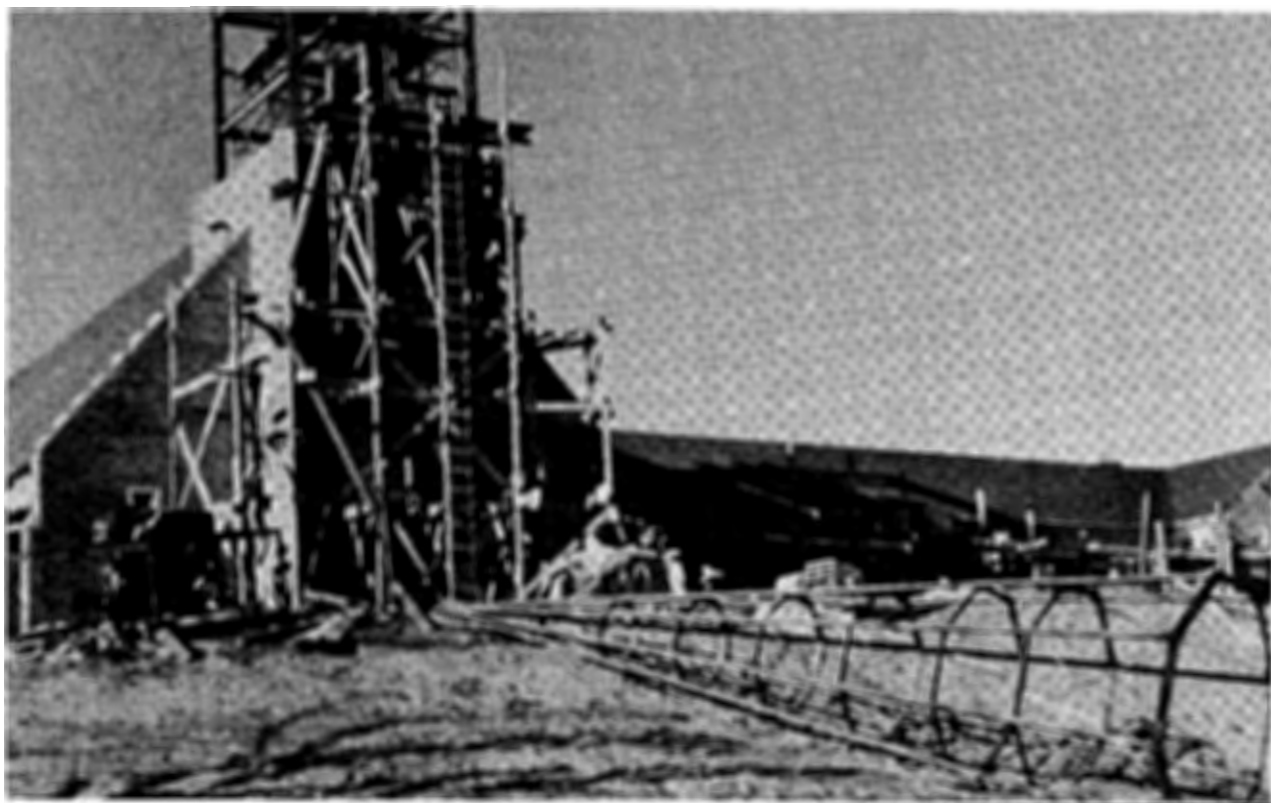
A rectorship of 18 years was begun by Dr. Thomas D. Windiate in 1916. During his rectorship, a new church building was erected at Connecticut and Knowles Avenue. Dr. Windiate retired on November 1, 1934.

From 1946 until 1952 the church building was located on Armory Avenue in the town of Kensington. The Church outgrew this building and in 1952 purchased the building vacated by the Holy Redeemer Catholic Church at Connecticut Avenue and Prospect Street. Scarcely settled there, the Maryland State Roads Commission acquired the land for the widening of Connecticut Avenue. In 1956, Christ Church acquired the land at 4001 Franklin Street in Chevy Chase View and the present church was constructed. The first service in the present building was held on August 24, 1958.

Other rectors were: the Rev. Holy Fairfield Butt, III (1934-1937); the Rev. Wade Safford (1937-1946); the Rev. Lyman B. Greaves (1946-1949); and the Rev. Gerald H. Catlin (1950-1967). The present rector, the Rev. William M. Moore, came in 1967 from Antietam Parish, Lappans and Sharpsburg, Maryland.

The present church building was consecrated by the Bishop of Washington in April, 1975 and the mortgage was formally burned on Mothers' Day, 1976.

\*This section was provided by courtesy of the Reverend William H. Moore, rector of Christ Church since 1967.



*Christ Episcopal Church under construction. Courtesy Mr. and Mrs. Tom Jackson.*



*Christ Episcopal Church, 1976. Photo by Mayvis FitzSimons.*



*The Baptist Church has a center stone square-shaped base tower with two wings of brick. Photo by James Moulton.*

## KENSINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH: FROM TENT TO TEMPLE\*

The Kensington Baptist Church began as a temporary organization on August 30, 1922, with 27 constituent members whose interest in organizing a Baptist church in Kensington had been enlisted largely by the untiring efforts of Mrs. Ida Simms, the mother of Mrs. Ethel Bowman of the congregation.

Two lots on Dupont Avenue in the town of Kensington were purchased, upon which a tent meeting was held under the leadership of the Rev. Frank Farley and the Rev. H.H. Nicoll. As a result of this meeting, 21 people were received by baptism.

On October 11, 1922, this temporary organization became an organized church; officers were elected and a call was extended to the Rev. H.H. Nicoll to become the first pastor. Thus was the Kensington Baptist Church officially born. The official roster of the first officers of the church was as follows: 1922, Sunday School Superintendent, W.J. Brooks; Clerk, H.M. Flinn; Treasurer, W.M. Matthews; Trustees, H.M. Brooks, Dr. Edward Speider, W.F. Matthews, H.M. Flinn, W.J. Brooks, Smith Putnam. 1923, Deacons, H.M. Brooks, W.J. Brooks, Cyrus Sherman, Edgar Thomas, George Schneider; Deaconess, Mrs. Ida L. Simms.

\*This section was provided by James H. John, an octogenarian who resides in California.

The church has been served by thirteen ministers of the gospel, of which two have gone to their heavenly reward. Many of the present membership fondly recall their acquaintance with most of these men of the gospel, and a few still remain who remember the ministry of all thirteen. A roll of the thirteen ministers serving the church follows: the Rev. H.H. Nicoll (November 1922-December 1928); the Rev. N.C. Harrington (November 1929-December 1931); the Rev. J.P. Scruggs (June 1932-September 1935); Dr. Otho Eure (January 1936-September 1936); the Rev. Walter Scott (January 1937-October 1937); the Rev. C.E. Sones (June 1938-May 1947); the Rev. A.E. Averett (April 1947-May 1947); the Rev. K.W. Knox (April 1950-January 1953); the Rev. J. Guy Saunders (March 4, 1953-November 1959); the Rev. Thomas Painter (November 1959-February 1968); the Rev. Rex Bennett (September 1968-August 1972); the Rev. Carter P. Morell (January 1973-April 1980); and the Rev. Ernest Cragg Seddon (October 1980 to the present).

By the end of the first year, the membership had grown from the original 27 to 72. Within five years the number grew to 119; and after 25 years, it reached over 300. In 1955, the membership exceeded 600; and today it is 475.

Until about 1950, the 1926 church sanctuary generally met the congregation's needs. Despite the addition of two substantial annexes in 1947 and 1951, there was need of more space to serve the growing congregation.

In 1954, shortly after the Rev. J. Guy Saunders was called by the church, a committee was appointed to seek a solution to this problem. Accordingly, in the spring of 1954, the present church site in Chevy Chase View with its fine parsonage, was purchased for \$65,000.00. The use of this parsonage by the Pastor and family released the smaller one on Dupont Avenue for Sunday School and nursery use. About the same time, the social rooms of the Kensington Fire House were secured to accommodate three men's Bible Classes. A partial relief of the overcrowding of school classrooms was thus provided. During the fall of 1954, the Dupont Avenue church and adjoining parsonage was sold for \$60,000.00, and a contract for approximately \$275,000.00, for the new church at the Chevy Chase View site was let.

The present Kensington Baptist Church, with a 100-foot steeple, was designed by Montgomery County architect Ted Englehardt. The building is situated on the scenic, five-acre, landscaped, wooded site of the former F. Regis Noel estate. The Noel home, built in the 1920's, serves as a parsonage. The house is of English Tudor architecture and has fourteen rooms. Services were held in the house and in some of the outbuildings until the church was erected. The interior of the house was renovated in 1972.

The facilities of the Kensington Baptist Church serve not only the needs of the church, but also some of the community's needs as well. The church was

host to Chevy Chase View during one of its bicentennial ceremonies which honored the first settlers in the community.



*The cross in the beautiful window of the nave of the Baptist Church faces Dresden Street. Photo by Mayvis Fitz-Simons, 1976.*

## TEMPLE EMANUEL: ITS EVOLUTION\*

Temple Emanuel was organized in Montgomery County in early 1952 by a few dedicated families who felt the need of a reform congregation. Until then there were three reform congregations in the Washington metropolitan area, none of which was in this county. At the instigation of the Sidney Jacobys and the Frank Lowensteins, a group of families gathered at the Jacoby home in Bethesda. Those families all had young children, and they met to discuss their common needs: (1) a conveniently located reform congregation, where the service would be mostly in English, (2) a religious school to teach their children the basic tenets of Reform Judaism; (3) a congregation which would give their children a normal social grouping in which to grow and mature; (4) a religious experience which would relate the truths of Judaism to the problems of modern living; and (5) a demo-

cratic congregation in which a spirit of warm friendship would prevail.

Once their incentives had been ascertained, the group enlisted the aid of Rabbi Albert G. Baum, Director of New Congregations of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. Plans for the congregation were mapped out and a provisional steering committee was named. A survey of the Jewish people was conducted to see if there were sufficient need for a reform group, and more than 100 families responded favorably.

A meeting to formally organize a reform Jewish congregation in Montgomery County was held at Lynbrook Recreation Center on August 21, 1952. The new congregation was to be called Temple Emanuel. The Hebrew word "Emanuel" means "God is with us." A provisional committee ran the temple affairs until a constitution was written, adopted, and officers elected.



Hillel Gamoran, a student rabbi at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in New York, served as spiritual leader until a full-time rabbi could be engaged. Women's and men's groups were formed under the leadership of Mrs. Leslie Schmidt and Mr. Arthur Wolf, respectively. A religious school, with over 120 pupils, opened under the directorship of Sidney Zevin.

In July 1953, Rabbi Leon M. Adler of New York was chosen as Temple Emanuel's first spiritual leader. He was granted life tenure in 1970.

Services of Temple Emanuel were initially held in a chapel of All Saints' Episcopal Church and, later, at the Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church. In 1955, the congregation purchased a five acre site on Connecticut Avenue. The acreage was part of an old farm with only a barn remaining. The location was in the Kensington Gardens Section of Chevy Chase View. Oscar Felker and Abe Pollin represented the Temple's Building Committee, and worked with the Chevy

Chase View Council to ensure that the community's building codes and rights of way would be upheld. On September 29, 1955 a temporary "Sukkah" was erected for a religious service, formally dedicating the property.

Construction of the first phase of the Temple, designed by architects Berla and Abel, began in 1957. In April, 700 persons including clergy of neighboring churches participated in a ground breaking ceremony. Actual construction began in June 1957. The completed building was dedicated May 2, 1958.

In 1970 a new building committee was established to discuss the economic feasibility of expanding the present facility, or building a new facility in the Potomac area. After careful consideration, an expansion, designed by architects Johnson and Johnson, was chosen. The plans were approved in June 1972, and groundbreaking took place in the spring of 1973. Dedication of the completed facility took place in May 1974.

\*This section was written by Phyllis K. Becker, a resident of Silver Spring, Maryland.



*Temple Emanuel, situated on the beautiful expanse of lawn, stilled the propositions to place a highrise on the spot. Photo by James Moulton.*



## THE PLANNING OF CEDARBROOK CLUB (1952-55)\*

There is sweat, toil and often tears in a community pool project. . . Before we finished the job. . . we got talked about at a national convention of urban planners . . . We plunged into politics and put amendments into a law. . . [Cedarbrook] pool ultimately generated a stack of press clippings six inches thick, and sparked an editorial in the *Washington Post* quite as long as a piece on Statehood for Alaska. (From *Saturday Evening Post*, June 16, 1956, p. 24, Donald S. Stroetzel: "How We Built Our Pool.")

The earliest discussion of the possibility of a swimming pool for the residents of Parkwood subdivision occurred during one of those famous Washington heat waves in the month of July 1952. Over a backyard fence on Roxbury Drive, separating the Stroetzels and the J.M. Lynchs, Don and Dorothy Stroetzel suggested that if Edgemoor in Bethesda could have a community swimming pool, and more recently Garrett Park, why not Parkwood? Talk quickly spread around the neighborhood and with the encouragement of his neighbors, Don Stroetzel began to look for land. It soon became evident that there was no available land in the Parkwood subdivision and a suitable site would have to be located elsewhere. The old Saul tract was carefully investigated, but the estate had other plans for the land and would not sell a portion of it. It became apparent that the only land suitable was in Martin's Addition to Chevy Chase View, at the intersection of Summit Avenue and Cedar Lane. Preliminary inquiries by Don Stroetzel revealed that the property was available at a reasonable price.

With the prospect of land acquisition in sight, a formal planning committee was established representing not only Parkwood, but also Chevy Chase View, as a portion of the land was actually in that subdivision. Shortly thereafter, a decision was made to include Kensington Estates, as the proposed pool property was located on the boundary of Chevy Chase View and Kensington Estates. The following residents of Chevy Chase View served on the Planning Committee:

R.T. Carpenter	J.F. Moulton
A.H. Graeff	Bob Rawlins
Carroll Creitz	C.H. Riddle
D.P. Kuntz	D.C. Seeley
Joseph Mathias	Homer Smith

With Don Stroetzel serving as Chairman and John Lynch serving as Secretary, meetings were held almost weekly during the spring and summer of 1953 in the basement of the Secretary's home. Strategy for purchasing the land and avoiding neighborhood opposition was outlined. It was decided to make an offer for the property, but to do so in an individual's name without any reference to the possibility of use of the property for a pool site. The offer was accepted and money for a down payment had to be quickly raised. Without any collateral, 25 residents of Parkwood "loaned" \$100.00 apiece to be used as down payment.

Because the full purchase price of the property had to be raised, a formal organization was developed. A detailed prospectus was written, outlining plans for the pool. Membership requirements were developed, initiation fees proposed, operating rules, etc., were outlined and an initial limit of 350 members was set. A membership drive was quickly organized and brochures sent to all residents of the three subdivisions. A Saturday morning in July 1953 was set to conduct a membership drive with headquarters on Cliff Andrews' lawn at Cedar Lane and Saul Road. Prior arrangements had been made with the Kensington Bank to provide personal loans to persons wishing to use this means of financing. To the amazement of the Planning Committee the membership goal was quickly realized with each of the new members paying an initiation fee of \$100.00. With money in the bank, the loans were quickly repaid and the property was purchased.

Although some neighborhood opposition was expected, no one expected the frustrations which the Planning Committee experienced during the year and a half before construction of the pool began. By February 1954, one full year before the work was started, bids for construction of the pool had been obtained, membership was at its maximum, the pool had assets of over \$40,000, and enthusiasm was at its peak. Serious difficulties, however, developed in having the property zoned for a community swimming pool. After several rejections for rezoning under existing regulations, Cedarbrook made intensive efforts to have the Montgomery County Council amend the zoning regulations to permit community swimming pools under carefully controlled conditions. These efforts succeeded. Cedarbrook Club thereby made it possible for other clubs to organize, and to do so under much more reasonable conditions.

By late fall 1954, rezoning was finally approved, and a contract for the pool was signed on December 14, 1954, with Payne-Oliver Concrete Co. of Falls Church, Va., for a total of \$29,792. Total cost of the initial project, including pools, land, bath house and

\*This section was provided by courtesy of Frank Hayden, who served as President of Cedarbrook Club from 1968 to 1970.

improvements was \$55,000 which was adequately covered from the \$35,000 obtained from the 350 original family memberships, plus a \$20,000 mortgage at 5% interest from Metropolitan Federal Savings and Loan Association, Bethesda, Maryland.

Building permits were issued in January 1955 and work began shortly thereafter. Construction was slated for completion by May 15, 1955, but some delays were experienced. However, word quickly spread that the pool would finally be open on July 4th, and that the signal for the pool being ready would be the raising of the American flag. This practice has continued to the present; the pool is always officially opened each year when the flag is raised. The official dedication of the pool took place on August 21, 1955 with Judge Alfred Noyes as the principal speaker. Today Cedarbrook contains four tennis courts as well as other recreational facilities.

The Stroetzel Award, in honor of Don Stroetzel, who was also the first President of Cedarbrook, was presented from 1955 through 1974 to swim team members for outstanding sportsmanship.

Winners were:

1955 Suzanne Smith	1966 Rich White
1956 Celeste Knippen	1967 Patty Zello
1957 Stuart Thomson	1968 Eddie Hall
1958 Linda Fox	1969 Roger Hiegel
1959 Celeste Knippen	Sue Nealis
1960 Kenny O'Callaghan	1970 Pat McKinney
1961 Not awarded	1971 Sue Gallagher
1962 Ricky Stringer	1972 Joanne McKinney
1963 Judy Colross	1973 Chris Swendiman
1964 Bill White	Dan Wack
Paul Monk	1974 Ken Hayden
1965 Ricky Stringer	



*Beginning construction of Cedarbrook Club, spring 1955. Courtesy Cedarbrook Club.*



*Cedarbrook Club, 1977. Photo by Mayvis FitzSimons.*

## CEDARBROOK SWIM TEAM

The Cedarbrook Swim Team was formed in June 1956, one year after the pool opened. The first team consisted of 120 girls and boys from age seven to sixteen. The only criteria at that time were that they swim two lengths of crawl if they were ten years and over, and one length of crawl if they were seven to nine years. In addition to swimming lessons, half-hour stroke clinics were held each weekday for anyone unable to qualify for the team or for any team member who was having problems.

Surprisingly, Cedarbrook won all four meets the first year, including the home meet with Garrett Park and the out of town meet at Westbriar Country Club in Virginia. After the first year, swimmers had to know the crawl, back, and breast strokes if they were ten years and over. If they were seven to nine years, they had to know the crawl and back strokes before they could join the team. This did not mean that they had to be top swimmers before they could join, but that they understood what the stroke was and could execute it in fairly good form. The butterfly stroke was taught after they became team members.

\*This section was written by Peggy Whilden, who has been the manager of Cedarbrook Club since 1955 and the swim team coach of Cedarbrook Club since 1958.

In 1957 a few more teams were added to the swim meet schedule, plus a number of American Amateur Union (AAU) meets. In 1958 two other coaches and I formed the Montgomery County Swim League (MCSL) with six teams participating. The original six pools were Cedarbrook, Connecticut-Belair, Glenwood, Kensington Heights (now Kenmont), Garrett Park and Merlands. In 1976 sixty teams were members of the MCSL in Divisions A to J. An increase of six to sixty certainly shows the growth and popularity of competitive swimming. However, Cedarbrook won the league championship for the first seven years. During that period, the team won every meet except one with an outside team in Virginia. Then our swimmers started growing up and leaving, and other teams started developing swimmers. Cedarbrook's team membership reached an all-time low with sixty members in 1976, but in 1977 new members and children increased and the team was once again back to 120 swimmers.

One of Cedarbrook's swimmers, Rick Stringer, made All American in the 100-meter back stroke when he was at the Naval Academy in Annapolis. Other swimmers continued with their swimming in college, and some have become swim coaches and instructors. Cedarbrook can be pleased with itself as a pacesetter, particularly in the early days of Montgomery County competitive swimming.



*The earliest photograph of the Cedarbrook Swim Team (1957). Courtesy Peggy Whilden.*

## A. NOTES AND SOURCES

### Primary Sources:

Montgomery County land records, Montgomery County cadastral maps, Chevy Chase View resubdivision maps, and Chevy Chase View Charter booklets. Minutes, Citizens Committee of Chevy Chase View, 1925-1946. Minutes, Citizens Association of Chevy Chase View, 1937-1950. Minutes, Council of Chevy Chase View, 1947-1977.

### Secondary Sources:

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25. Liber 302, Folio 199.
26. Liber 464, Folio 492.
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28. Letter from W.M. Terrell to Town of Kensington, Dec. 2, 1915.
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30. Jewell, p. 225.
31. Letter from Sherman Booth, President of the Citizens Association, September 29, 1941.
32. Letter from Dr. A.T. McPherson to Chevy Chase View residents, April 4, 1947.
33. Letter from Sherman Booth, President, Chevy Chase View Citizens Association, to Hon. Katherine E. Byron, Sept. 29, 1941. (The Roosevelts rented the Goode house at 9826 Connecticut Avenue, built circa 1935).
34. MacMaster and Hiebert, p. 273.
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36. *Washington Star*. Obituary Section, May 9, 1956.
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40. Hull vs. Chevy Chase View.
41. The earliest covenants were placed on the land in Chevy Chase View in 1910 (Smith and Whitmore to Charles G. Pfluger, Liber 214, Folio 29). They consisted of four covenants and concerned only building restrictions. However, Harry Martin placed six very restrictive covenants on the land he sold to F. Regis Noel in 1921. According to Dr. McPherson (and the deed), this was done to keep Chevy Chase View a one-family residential area. The two covenants which seem antiquated by today's standards are Martin's first and second covenants (Liber 302, Folio 198): 1. That the land and premises hereby conveyed shall and will not be sold, conveyed, conveyed in trust for the use or benefit of or rented to a Negro or one of the African race; and 2. That no hog or hogs shall or will be kept on the premises hereby conveyed. The seven covenants which have been published in the Chevy Chase View Charter Book-lets were those established in 1928 by the C.H. Galliher Company (Liber 464, Folio 492), which also included the same two preceding covenants.
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## B. BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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## **In Memoriam**

**ALLAN HATHAWAY GRAEFF**  
**1915 - 1981**

For nearly forty years Allan Graeff was intimately involved in the life, growth, development and government of Chevy Chase View. He took an interest in all matters, large and small, that affected the well-being of its residents and went out of his way to welcome and help newcomers. Allan served at least one term as president of the Citizens Association and many years as secretary-treasurer, councilman and chairman of the Council. He was also a member of the Cedarbrook Club Planning Committee. His wealth of knowledge about the area and its history was invaluable in the preparation of the **Chronicles**. May be long remembered as one of the "Village's" most dedicated citizens.