

The Guilford News

GUILFORDASSOCIATION.ORG

SUMMER 2019

Notable Residents — the Arts and Letters

GUILFORD HAS BEEN HOME TO MANY NOTABLE RESIDENTS WHO HAVE HAD SIGNIFICANT INFLUENCE IN THEIR PROFESSIONS AND GREAT IMPACT ON THE CITY AND BEYOND.

We are concluding our series about notable past residents of Guilford with a discussion of people who have contributed to the arts and letters. Prior newsletter articles have focused on doctors at Johns Hopkins who were leaders in medical practice, business leaders, noted lawyers, civic leaders and educators. All of these individuals had a significant influence in their field and impact on the city of Baltimore and in many cases the state and nation as well.

Grace Hill Turnbull (1879–1976), a painter, sculptor and author lived at 223 Chancery Road.

Born to a cultured family in Baltimore, Turnbull studied painting at the Maryland Institute College of Art, the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, and the Art Students League of New York. She then turned her attention to sculpture, studying at the Rinehart School of the Maryland Institute and in Rome.

In 1914 she received the Whitelaw Reid Prize in Paris, and she received the Anna Hyatt Huntington Prize in 1932 and 1944. Turnbull was notorious during her life for her commitment to

See **GUILFORD NOTABLES**, page 6



Grace Hill Turnbull (1879–1976), a painter, sculptor and author lived at 223 Chancery Road.



A 1930s view shows the green space that once existed at the intersection of Greenway and Northway. Reinstating this planted island is one of several street and traffic issues that the Guilford Association continues to address with the City Department of Transportation.

*Johns Hopkins University Special Collections.
Item from Series 12, Photographs and Albums,
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The summer season is upon us and I hope you had time to enjoy spring despite the weather. Sherwood Gardens and Guilford looked stunning, but as you will read, the combination of a wet winter, changing temperatures and wind made blooms a bit unpredictable.

The Association continues to work to maintain the quality and uniqueness of our Guilford community. I will summarize the status of several priority matters:

Community Security. The expanded schedule of the GSP will continue, but as always our ability to increase the hours of patrol depends on resident participation. The working relationship with the Northern District of the Baltimore Police Department is strong. The Northern District has created a Neighborhood Coordination Unit that meets quarterly with the Board of Managers.

The Board continues to explore the feasibility of installing video cameras at several strategic points in Guilford. It is a long process as there is not an “off the shelf” system to test; we will keep you informed.

As you are likely aware, the State approved the creation of a private police unit by Johns Hopkins. The Association supported the Hopkins request for authorization and we will be meeting with Homewood campus officials to determine how the GSP can best coordinate patrol and communicate with the Hopkins police.

Traffic and Streets. There are a number of issues concerning Guilford that are before officials of the City Department of Transportation (DOT) for which decisions are pending:

- 39th Street Traffic Calming — While DOT has verbally committed to repaving 39th Street between Greenmount Avenue and St. Paul Street and installing traffic calming measures this summer they have failed, after many requests, to provide a revised plan that reflects community comments.

- Crosswalk designation at Cold Spring and N. Charles St — Brick crosswalks have been requested at this intersection which has very heavy pedestrian traffic.

- Planted Island — Restoration of the original planted island at Greenway and Northway — a decade long request.

- Street Lights — A City contractor began changing Guilford street lights to high intensity LED lights that are being installed in other designated city locations. The very bright blue/white lights are inappropriate for our residential streets. Fortunately, installation was stopped. We are not opposed to conversion of street lights to LED, but in most other large cities where LED lights are being installed in residential locations, a less intense more traditional yellow light is being used. This is what is being requested of the City for Guilford.

Financial Status. The financial status of the Association is sound with a reasonable reserve for unforeseen expenses. Most residents paid their mandatory fees when due. However, there are still a number of residents that have not made the 2019 mandatory maintenance fee payments. Late notices were sent and late fees applied. Lien notices have been issued and will be filed for nonpayment shortly so if you have not yet paid mandatory fees please do so.

Architectural Committee review. As we frequently remind residents, all proposed exterior alterations to Guilford properties

are required by the Deed and Agreement to be submitted to the Architectural Committee for review and approval before changes are made. Compliance with this obligation is generally good and most applications are approved or residents receive guidance from the committee that will improve the proposal and result in compliance with Architectural Guidelines. The Guidelines are posted on the Guilford website with other related information.

The Architectural Committee performs periodic reviews of Guilford properties and where violations are identified violation notices are issued. All properties are reviewed at the time they may be listed for sale and real estate agents are now regularly requesting letters reporting property compliance with the Deed and Agreement and Architectural Guidelines.

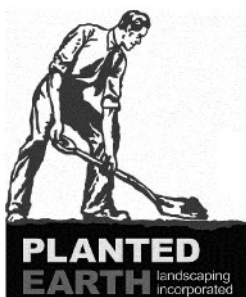
Loyola Master Plan. An agreement exists between Loyola University and the North Baltimore communities adjacent to the Loyola University campus (collectively the North Baltimore Neighborhood Coalition) concerning future growth including enrollment size and building and site development. The current period of the outstanding agreement has expired and a new agreement is being negotiated. Anthony Gill and Lynda Riley are representing the Guilford Association in the discussion with Loyola and NBNC. A site plan showing the proposed campus master plan for development appears in the newsletter. When the agreement is finalized there will be further explanation.

Newsletter. In this newsletter we conclude our series of articles about past notable residents by discussing individuals who impacted arts and letters. In addition, we highlight another member of the Board of Managers and feature an interesting resident who is currently a leader in their field. Please enjoy reading these and other articles.

Have an enjoyable summer. Thank you for your continued support. Please visit www.guilfordassociation.org for information about our community. Contact me or any member of the Board with questions, concerns and recommendations.

Tom Hobbs

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– Roberta H. – Baltimore, MD



103 OVERHILL RD
List Price: \$710,000
Closing Price: \$710,000

4418 UNDERWOOD RD
List Price: \$460,000
Closing Price: \$460,000

4403 NORWOOD RD
List Price: \$460,000
Closing Price: \$460,000

108 OVERHILL RD
List Price: \$635,000
Closing Price: \$635,000

218 NORTHWAY
List Price: \$760,000
Closing Price: \$760,000

40 WARRENTON RD
List Price: \$765,000
Closing Price: \$765,000

COLONIAL
5BR
3FB / 1HB

37 WARRENTON RD
List Price: \$815,000
Closing Price: \$815,000

COLONIAL
5BR
3FB / 2HB

COLONIAL
6BR
2FB / 1HB

4216 GREENWAY
List Price: \$825,000
Closing Price: \$825,000

4304 WENDOVER RD
List Price: \$430,000
Closing Price: \$430,000

COLONIAL
4BR
2FB / 2HB

COLONIAL
5BR
3FB / 0HB

4221 GREENWAY
List Price: \$1,235,000
Closing Price: \$1,235,000

Active Properties

AS OF JULY 1, 2019

List price

4200 GREENWAY	\$2,485,000
4100 GREENWAY*	\$1,799,000
4000 GREENWAY	\$1,685,000
4303 UNDERWOOD RD	\$1,450,000
26 WHITFIELD RD	\$1,275,000
4409 GREENWAY	\$1,250,000
211 LAMBETH RD	\$1,125,000
10 WHITFIELD RD	\$1,100,000
4311 UNDERWOOD RD	\$1,000,000
4401 GREENWAY	\$885,000
5 MILLBROOK RD	\$874,900
4001 N CHARLES ST	\$824,900
217 CHANCERY RD*	\$820,000
4206 CHARLCOTE RD	\$789,000
4305 SAINT PAUL ST	\$750,000
4301 GREENWAY	\$750,000
400 NORTHWAY	\$724,900
3811 FENCHURCH RD*	\$599,000
212 E 39TH ST	\$539,900
225 CHANCERY RD	\$534,900
403 MARLOW RD	\$487,000
305 NORTHWAY	\$484,990
22 CHARLCOTE PL*	\$454,500
400 BRETTON PL	\$390,000
3813 JUNIPER RD	\$369,900
307 WENDOVER RD	\$365,000
417 SOUTHWAY	\$349,500
320 SUFFOLK RD*	\$299,000
3610 GREENMOUNT AVE	\$234,500
410 SOUTHWAY*	\$220,900
11 YORK CT*	\$149,900
403 SOUTHWAY*	\$95,000

*Under Contract

Guilford Property Sales

FEBRUARY 1, 2019 – JULY 1, 2019

COLONIAL
5BR
3FB / 1HB

4000 ST PAUL ST
List Price: \$683,000
Closing Price: \$683,000

COLONIAL
7BR
6FB / 2HB

4001 GREENWAY
List Price: \$1,300,000
Closing Price: \$1,300,000

COLONIAL
3BR
2FB / 2HB

3919 1/2 JUNIPER RD
List Price: \$320,000
Closing Price: \$320,000

COLONIAL
3BR
2FB / 1HB

3908 GREENMOUNT AVE
List Price: \$235,000
Closing Price: \$235,000

COLONIAL
4BR
2FB / 1HB

3814 JUNIPER RD
List Price: \$515,000
Closing Price: \$515,000

COLONIAL
7BR
3FB / 1HB

3800 FENCHURCH RD
List Price: \$599,900
Closing Price: \$599,900

COLONIAL
5BR
2FB / 0HB

3710 GREENMOUNT AVE
List Price: \$295,000
Closing Price: \$295,000

COLONIAL
5BR
5FB / 1HB

3703 GREENWAY
List Price: \$1,150,000
Closing Price: \$1,150,000

COLONIAL
6BR
4FB / 1HB

231 CHANCERY RD
List Price: \$679,850
Closing Price: \$679,850

COLONIAL
3BR
1FB / 1HB

332 SUFFOLK RD
List Price: \$406,000
Closing Price: \$406,000

COLONIAL
5BR
2FB / 0HB

3541 NEWLAND RD
List Price: \$365,000
Closing Price: \$365,000

COLONIAL
5BR
3FB / 1HB

3527 NEWLAND RD
List Price: \$389,000
Closing Price: \$389,000

COLONIAL
4BR
2FB / 1HB

314 SOUTHWAY
List Price: \$395,000
Closing Price: \$395,000

COLONIAL
3BR
2FB / 1HB

3504 NEWLAND RD
List Price: \$400,000
Closing Price: \$400,000

Frederic Ogden Nash (1902-1971) a celebrated poet and lyricist well known for his light verse lived at 4300 Rugby Road.



GREG PEASE PHOTOGRAPHY

GUILFORD NOTABLES, *From page 1*

abstinence in many fields — she objected strenuously to alcohol, and served only apple juice at her own gatherings — and her support for civil rights. She never married. Turnbull continued to sculpt well into her late 80s and finally put down the chisel at age 90.

Grace Turnbull lived in Baltimore for much of her life, and for almost 50 years in a house and studio at 223 Chancery Road designed by her brother Bayard, with a great deal of input from Grace and influenced by her travels to Spain. The home is distinguished by its unique architectural style, an eclectic mix of Spanish Mission and Arts and Crafts elements. The house is accented on corners with totems sculptured by Miss Turnbull and featured an elegant studio where Turnbull created the sculptural work that she had turned to at that point in her career. The home is a designated Baltimore City Landmark.

Besides her artistic pursuits she wrote a number of books, including *Tongues of Fire* (1929), *Essence of Plotinus* (1934), *Fruit of the Vine* (1950), and the autobiography *Chips from My Chisel* (1953); she also wrote pamphlets and contributed articles to a variety of publications.

Turnbull's 1941 sculpture *Python of India* is owned by the Metropolitan Museum of Art, while two of her public artworks, a memorial to Lizette Woodworth Reese and a statue of a naiad, remain in Baltimore. A collection of her papers is held at Syracuse University. The collection includes correspondence (1938-1943); book manuscripts, as well as manuscript poems and essays; drawings; photographs; and published material by and about

Turnbull, including articles, clippings, pamphlets, and exhibition catalogs. Her work was the subject of a retrospective exhibition at the Baltimore Museum of Art in 1996.

Frederic Ogden Nash (1902-1971) a celebrated poet and lyricist well known for his light verse lived at 4300 Rugby Road.

Nash was born to a distinguished family in Rye, New York. After graduating from St. George's School in Newport County, Rhode Island, he entered Harvard University in 1920, only to drop out a year later. He worked briefly on Wall Street, and as a schoolteacher, before becoming a copywriter. In 1925, he took a job in the marketing department with the publishing house Doubleday. While working as an editor at Doubleday, he submitted some short rhymes to *The New Yorker*. Editor Harold Ross wrote Nash asking for more, saying "They are about the most original stuff we have had lately." Nash spent three months in 1931 working on the editorial staff for *The New Yorker*.

Throughout his life, Nash loved to rhyme. "I think in terms of rhyme, and have since I was six years old," he stated in a 1958 news interview. He had a fondness for crafting his own words whenever rhyming words did not exist, though admitting that crafting rhymes was not always the easiest task.

Nash's first published poems began to appear in the *New Yorker* around 1930. His first collection of poems, *Hard Lines* (Simon & Schuster), was published in 1931. The book was a tremendous success; it went into seven printings in its first year alone, and Nash quit his job with Doubleday. That same year, he married Frances Rider Leonard; they had two children. Nash worked briefly for the *New Yorker* in 1932, before deciding to devote himself full-time to his verse.

In 1934, Nash moved to Baltimore, where he remained until his death in 1971. They lived for a short time at 4205 Underwood Road, then moved to 4300 Rugby Road where Nash did much of his writing. Nash thought of Baltimore as home. After his return from a brief move to New York, he wrote, apropos Richard Lo “I could have loved New York had I not loved Balti-more.”

Nash considered himself a “worsifier.” Among his best known lines are “Candy / Is dandy, / But liquor / Is quicker” and “If called by a panther / Don’t anther.” His poems also had an intensely anti-establishment quality that resounded with many Americans, particularly during the Depression. Nash was a keen observer of American social life, and frequently mocked religious moralizing and conservative politicians. His work is often compared with other satirists of the time, including Dorothy Parker, Robert Benchley, and H. L. Mencken. He appeared regularly on radio and on television, and he drew huge audiences for his readings and lectures.

Nash was also the author of three screenplays for MGM, and with S. J. Perelman, he wrote the 1943 Broadway hit *One Touch of Venus*. In the 1950s, Nash focused on writing poems for children, including the collection *Girls Are Silly* (Franklin Watts, 1962).

Nash and his love of the Baltimore Colts were featured in the December 13, 1968 issue of *Life*, with several poems about the American football team matched to full-page pictures. Entitled

“My Colts, verses and reverses,” the issue includes his poems and photographs by Arthur Rickerby.

Among his most popular writings were a series of animal verses, many of which featured his off-kilter rhyming devices. Nash wrote over 500 pieces. With his unconventional rhyming schemes, he was declared the country’s best-known producer of humorous poetry. The best of his work was published in 14 volumes between 1931 and 1972.

Nash died at Johns Hopkins Hospital on May 19, 1971, of complications from Crohn’s disease.

Max Brödel (1870–1941) a renowned medical illustrator lived at 320 Suffolk Road.

Brödel, born in Leipzig, Germany, began his artistic career after graduating from the Leipzig Academy of Fine Arts, working for Dr. Carl Ludwig, physician and physiologist. The artistic techniques he learned there reflected the 19th century arts education emphasis on the development of fine, precise drawings. Under Ludwig’s instruction, he gained a basic knowledge of medicine and became recognized for his detailed medical illustrations.

Brödel drew detailed gross anatomical and histological diagrams. Honing his observational skills with detailed notes of the numerous surgeries and autopsies he observed, Brödel’s work was credited for topographical accuracy, tissue realism, and attention to the cross-sectional anatomy. His network of medical



Max Brödel (1870–1941) a renowned medical illustrator lived at 320 Suffolk Road.



Mabel Garrison Siemomn (1886–1963), a coloratura soprano who sang at the Metropolitan Opera from 1914 to 1921 lived at 3 Overhill Road.

Maria Briscoe Croker (1875–1962), Maryland's first Poet Laureate, lived at 3803 Juniper Road.



professionals increased when he met anatomist Dr. Franklin P. Mall of Johns Hopkins Hospital in 1888.

In the late 1890s, he was brought to the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine to illustrate for Harvey Cushing, William Halsted, Howard Kelly, and other notable clinicians. The majority of Brödel's illustrations were for Dr. Howard A. Kelly, the Chief of Gynecology, during his employment at Johns Hopkins Hospital. Brödel illustrated for Kelly's two-volume textbook, *Operative Gynecology*, which was published in 1898. Its release garnered widespread praise and recognition, cemented Kelly's preeminent status in the field of gynecology, and established Brödel's role as a pioneering medical illustrator.

In addition to being a prolific medical illustrator, he developed new artistic techniques such as the carbon dust technique that helped the advancement of the quality and accuracy of medical illustrations for physicians. In 1911, he presided over the creation of the first Department of Art as Applied to Medicine. Endowed by Baltimore businessman and art collector Henry Walters, the Department remains within the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine; continues to train medical illustrators to this day. Brodel's graduates spread out across the world, and have founded a number of other academic programs.

Brödel was introduced to fellow artist, medical illustrator, and future wife, Ruth Huntington, by Dr. Howard Kelly. The pair realized their similar musical and artistic interests and married in 1902. A kindly, curly-headed man of quiet demeanor, Brodel was beloved of his friends and possessed of a passion for music. He became friends with H. L. Mencken, and the two of them made music, brewed beer, and enjoyed legendary meals with members of the Saturday Night Club.

Max Brödel is often referred to as the father of modern medical illustration and mentioned in the same breath as Leonardo da Vinci or Andreas Vesal.

Mabel Garrison Siemonn (1886–1963), a coloratura soprano who sang at the Metropolitan Opera from 1914 to 1921 lived at 3 Overhill Road.

Garrison was born in Baltimore. She graduated from Western Maryland College (now McDaniel College) in 1903 and then went on to study singing at the Peabody Conservatory. In 1908 she married the professor of harmony, George Siemonn and then studied further with Oscar Saenger and Herbert Witherspoon in New York.

Garrison made her debut in 1912 with the Aborn Opera Company as Philine in *Mignon*. She made her Metropolitan Opera debut on February 15, 1914 in a Sunday afternoon concert singing arias from operas by Verdi and Mozart. Her first role at the Met was Frasquita in Bizet's *Carmen*. Other roles included Adina in *L'Elisir d'Amore*, Bertha in *Euryanthe*, Biancifiore in *Francesca da Rimini*, Crobyle in *Thaïs*, the Dew Fairy in *Hansel and Gretel*, Gilda in *Rigoletto*, Olympia in *The Tales of Hoffman*, Lady Harriet in *Martha*, Oscar in *Un Ballo in Maschera*, the Queen of the Night in *The Magic Flute*, the Queen of Shemakha in *The Golden Cockerel*, Rosina in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, and Urbain in *Les Huguenots* among others. Her last performance at the Met was as the title role in *Lucia di Lammermoor* on January 22, 1921.

In 1921, Garrison made guest appearances at the Berlin State Opera in Hamburg and at the Cologne Opera. Later that year, she made a world concert tour. She was a member of the Chicago Civic Opera during the 1925-26 season. She was a teacher at Smith College after 1933. Garrison had an admirably trained coloratura soprano voice, as she demonstrated in both opera and concert and in several recordings she made for the Victor Talking Machine Company.

Mabel's husband, George Siemonn, also was a celebrated musician. He served as the second conductor of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra from 1930–1935, composed and taught at the Peabody Conservatory, where he met Mabel.

Maria Briscoe Croker (1875 –1962), Maryland's first Poet Laureate, lived at 3803 Juniper Road.

Croker was born at Charlotte Hall, Maryland in St. Mary's County. She attended St. Mary's Seminary (now St. Mary's College of Maryland), then Maryland State Normal School (now Towson University). Maryland Governor J. Millard Tawes appointed Croker Poet Laureate in 1959. In 1895 she married Edward Joseph Croker at Charlotte Hall Academy where her father Edward Briscoe taught literature. Three volumes of poetry were published and her poems are in roughly 50 anthologies.

A local poet with a career spanning several decades, Croker was commissioned as Poet Laureate by Governor J. Miller Tawes in the spring of 1959 at the age of 84. Croker's work reflected her deep Maryland heritage. A relative of John Briscoe, an original colonial settler who traveled to Maryland on the Ark and Dove, Coker often waxed nostalgic about her childhood in Southern Maryland and the New York of the "Gay Nineties" (1890s). Following a ten-year stint living out of state, the poet and her husband Edward settled in Baltimore, where she became a member of several poetic and patriotic groups. Croker was a diehard Orioles fan, never missing a chance to watch them on television.

Yet her civic virtues and her love for her Orioles weren't what characterized her work. Instead, Croker composed verses celebrating the natural beauty of the state and the importance of its history. Croker tackled a variety of subjects. Among her most famous works was "The Constellation," a poem about Baltimore's famous warship which was first published in the Baltimore News-Post. Of her works expressing her love for nature, Croker selected *On Catocotin*, a celebration of God and natural beauty, as a personal favorite. It is transcribed below.

"On Catocotin"

*O lovely are the distances where peaceful valleys lie,
Blue-walled by mountain ranges, lifting mist-veiled to the sky.
There are corn fields, rich, abundant, and many a happy home,
Green spreading trees and meadows where tranquil cattle roam.
Glowing Golden in the picture are the harvest fields of grain;
Nature's bounty, gently nurtured, by God's gifts of sun and rain.
On the mountain tops, at evening, there are gorgeous tints that show
In the sun's departing splendor – a bright jeweled afterglow.
There is peace upon the valleys—There is peace upon the hills,
A Heaven-sent benediction that my restless spirit stills.*

Henry Ernest Treide (1884–1969), who served as Baltimore Museum of Art (BMA) board Chairman from 1937-1942 lived at 4201 St. Paul Street.



*And I know the great Creator, through the works of His own hand
Speaks a message in His beauty that my soul may understand.*

Though she passed away only three years into her tenure as Poet Laureate, Croker left a valuable legacy for her successors to live up to. Croker understood that irrespective of subject, poetry had a deeply spiritual impact on the soul. Upon her death the *Annapolis Capital* observed: “Maria Briscoe Croker was an extraordinary gracious and beautiful woman. She was universally loved and was active in almost every social and cultural society in Baltimore.”

Henry Ernest Treide (1884–1969), who served as Baltimore Museum of Art (BMA) board Chairman from 1937-1942 lived at 4201 St. Paul Street.

Treide was a principal of Treide and Sons, a large wholesale merchant with accounts throughout the U.S. and later president of the Davison Chemical Company. He was a supporter of the arts and member of the BMA Board becoming Chair following Blanchard Randall.

By the 1930s, the public reception of the BMA was such that director Roland McKinney, in a letter to board chairman Henry Treide, noted, “People seem to feel that the Museum belongs to them and show that they are sincerely proud of it and its activities.” However, a 1937 Carnegie Corporation report observed that these people were mostly upper-crust, privileged, and white, and that “[Baltimore] cultural institutions (outside of the library and the schools) have appealed to, been intended for, and been supported by a pretty small minority... they need to be opened up, for the viewpoint of the entire community and its needs.”

Board of Trustees President Treide responded by having a city-wide survey conducted reaching out to over 200 social, labor, and special interest groups in Baltimore, inquiring what they most wanted from a city art museum. The committee representing Baltimore’s African American community responded with a recommendation that the museum’s galleries begin to display artwork generated by and for the black community. As a direct result of the feedback, the BMA hosted an exhibition of 116 works by 29 black artists in February 1939, the first by a major museum in the U.S. The Harmon Foundation, a New York-based organization dedicated to the patronage of black cultural production coordinated the loans of artworks to the exhibition. More than 12,000 visitors saw *Contemporary Negro Art* during its two-week presentation at the BMA that year.

Time magazine observed, “On the sunlit steps of the Baltimore Museum of Art last week, aboard a platform directly under the brooding bronze of Rodin’s Thinker, a slender, sharp-featured, gleeful gentleman of 53 saw one of his best thoughts come true before an audience of about 1,000 Labor Day loungers. The happy man was Henry Ernest Treide (rhymes with “tidy”), onetime captain in the U. S. Army Quartermaster Corps, onetime president of Davison Chemical Co., onetime president of the Baltimore Association of Credit Men, and since June 1937, president of the executive board of the Baltimore Museum of Art.

Information Sources: Metropolitan Opera Performance Archives, Univ. of Baltimore Literary Heritage Project, The Sun, Board of Trustee Records, BMA, Wikipedia. Thanks to Ann Giroux for helping to verify notables in residence and Guilford home addresses.

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100 Years and Four Generations Later
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Interesting Neighbors

Douglas C. Comer, Ph.D.

In a series of articles we've been highlighting a number of Guilford's early residents that made notable contributions to their profession or business and to the growth of the City and had impact on society. Today too there are many Guilford residents who are currently leaders in their field and performing services and research that now and in the future will have significant influence. We'll feature in newsletters some stories about our current neighbors.

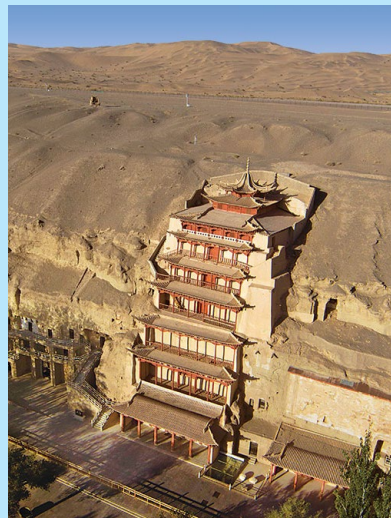


Operating from his Baltimore-based firm Cultural Site Research and Management Foundation, Guilford resident Dr. Douglas Comer has been engaged in high-tech archaeological research and planning for the protection and presentation of many of the iconic archaeological sites in the world. Most of these have been World Heritage Sites: Petra in Jordan, Machu Picchu and the Nasca Lines in Peru, Bru na Boinne in Ireland, the enigmatic

Nan Madol, constructed on a coral reef on the island of Pohnpei, in Micronesia, Pammukale/Hierapolis in Turkey, the Island of Meroe in Sudan, Ayutthaya and Sukhothai in Thailand, Angkor in Cambodia... the list goes on. At odd moments, he flies somewhere for a few days to provide advice on preservation and management of both archaeological and natural sites that most people in the world are just becoming aware of: the Mogao Grottoes in the Gobi Desert of China, the early Jomon village sites in Japan, Argimusco on the island of Sicily in Italy. Of that, Comer says, "Often, that kind of consultation has me sitting in front of 50 people who ask me questions for days. The field sessions are just the opposite, trekking and climbing most of the time."

Comer has long been involved with ICOMOS, the International Council on Monuments and Site, best known for its role in evaluating sites that are nominated to the World Heritage List. Currently he is President of the United States National Committee of ICOMOS, as well as being the Vice-President of the ICOMOS Advisory Committee and Chair of the 107 ICOMOS national committee organization, ICOMOS NatCom. He is Fellow-by-Courtesy at the Johns Hopkins University and a Visiting Scholar with the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory at Caltech, as well as being a Fulbright Scholar in Cultural Resource Management and a former Scholar-in-Residence at the American Center of Oriental Research in Amman, Jordan, and at the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Center for Archaeology and the Fine Arts in Bangkok.

Comer came to Maryland in 1976. "I was hired by the U.S. National Park Service during the Bicentennial. Before long, they



Guilford resident, Dr. Douglas Comer has worked at iconic archaeological sites around the world. Two of his many favorites are pictured here — (above) Machu Picchu, the Incan ruins in southern Peru and (left) the Mogao Grottoes, an elaborate system of Buddhist caves in western China.

sent me to Maryland to put together a team of archaeologists to collect documents at the National Archives and conduct field excavations to guide repairs to the C&O Canal, which had been heavily damaged by Hurricane Agnes." That team transitioned into an archaeology and historical research center for the National Park Service that he directed, the Applied Archaeology Center. Then he was named chairman of then-Gov. William Donald Schaefer's Commission on Archaeology, redesigning the state's program.

Baltimore became home when he married a Maryland native, also an archaeologist, Elizabeth Anderson Comer. They met when Elizabeth, the Baltimore City Archaeologist, presented a paper in session that Comer organized in the 1970s. "She had the best paper, hands down, I was impressed; she was so earnest,

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and I have to say, so cute.” They now have three children. Margaret, the eldest, was just awarded her Ph.D. in archaeology from Cambridge University in England, Jacob, who with an M.Phil. from Cambridge is Vice-President of Cultural Site Research and Management Foundation, specializing in environmental, statistical, and economic analyses, and Anne, who graduated in May from Bard College with her B.A. in anthropology.

“Before our children entered grade school, we simply traveled all the time, in those days mostly for projects in Jordan, Turkey, and Southeast Asia. We used the Calvert School home-school material, and when we decided that they should go to a bricks and mortar school so that they could interact with other kids, we enrolled them in Calvert. Then we bought a house nearby. Then we were shocked to find that the school wouldn’t let us take them with us for a few weeks or a month when we went to other countries. So, for years I would try to do as much fieldwork as possible during the summer, leaving Baltimore the day after school recessed and returning the day before it began. Sometimes, we were late getting back because of delayed flights.”

Asked for his favorite countries and sites, he will not say. “Everyplace is different and amazing, the sites are fascinating and usually breathtaking, and people everywhere are wonderful. No one has so much as said a harsh word to me anywhere I have been. Well, there was that one time that Elizabeth and I were marched at gunpoint out of a remote Roman site in Syria; we were taking photos and didn’t realize that there was a military installation on the horizon. A soldier kept a gun to my head for an hour. When his commanding officer arrived, he was disgusted by that and

apologized to us. I think that there is a lesson there: people all over the world are warm and hospitable, gracious and kind, but many of the governments in the world are run by power hungry morons who scare people into doing terrible things.”

Pressed for an opinion, he will say, “OK, if you can do it, I would recommend Petra, Machu Picchu, taking a boat up the Nile to see Luxor and all of the other sites there, Angkor, the Nasca Lines, the Greek and Roman sites in Ionia (now the western region of Turkey), Ayutthaya and Sukhothai in Thailand... but then there are others: Bru na Boinne with Neolithic burial mounds set on the stunning landscape along the Boinne River in Ireland, and of course Nan Madol in Micronesia, and all of the Greek and Roman sites in Sicily, the Mogao Grottoes in China, and the Ngorongoro Crater, which is like an enormous bowl full of animals just near Olduvai Gorge where Mary and Louis Leaky found some of our earliest ancestral hominids... I’ve left so many great sites out. You might want to check out the World Heritage List. And when you go, please patronize local hotels and restaurants, buy handicrafts from women’s cooperatives, and meet the people. If you stay in the international tourist bubble you will miss what you might remember most.”

Record Breaking dig

More visitors than ever, more bulbs sold than ever, and more money raised than ever.

With great pre-event publicity from social media managed by Sarah Crowe, the Annual Tulip Dig on May 25th attracted tulip lovers from near and far. We had families from Philadelphia, Annapolis, Silver Spring, Towson, Charles Village and Guilford!

We had many more pre-bagged bulbs for sale than in previous years and they went like hot cakes. We were sold out by 8am. Not deterred, bulb diggers — who started to arrive at 6:15am and were still coming at noon — ravaged every flower bed. Here you see a before and after of bed 18.

The result is a record fundraiser — \$5,900 and counting — funds which are vital to maintaining tulips and summer flowers in Sherwood Gardens.

Thanks to the many volunteers who helped make this such a successful and fun event.



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MARGARET ALTON

The trees of Guilford are one of the gifts of nature that make Guilford special — outstanding really. Trees are vital. They support life by absorbing carbon, producing oxygen, providing habitat and cooling shade — these are some of the 22 benefits of trees listed on the *TreePeople.org* website. It may not be vital, but healthy trees also increase land value, help create the unique aesthetic of Guilford and help to deter crime. Unhappily, when walking, or even driving, I see many more dead trees and dead tree limbs in Guilford than in the past. I see spectral branches looming over homes, sidewalks and streets.

As the Guilford Association Board Manager responsible for Guilford's parks and common spaces, I would like your help in attending to Guilford's private and public trees. By private I mean the trees on your property — they should be inspected periodically for disease and safety, as well as aesthetics. Regular care includes fertilization, pruning, mulching (not in a tent shape around the tree trunk) and vine removal. I actually have seen a huge tree and a large tulip poplar limb fall to the ground on sunny, windless days. Falling limbs and trees destroy roofs, cars and disrupt life. Thankfully, no one to my knowledge, has yet been injured, just property.

By public I mean trees between the curb and the sidewalk, as well as on the St. Paul median and the N. Charles Street bump outs. Trees in these public spaces are to be cared for by the city's Recre-

ation and Parks' Forestry Division — bcrp.baltimorecity.gov/forestry. To have the City prune and remove dead trees call 311 and create a CSR. You may have to follow up every other month or so, but persistence does pay. If you see an ugly stump please call 311 to request that it be removed, too.

On a happier note, you can contact the City to request new trees for empty spaces on the grass strip between the curb and the sidewalk. The original Olmsted Plan for Guilford has trees lining both sides of every street so don't be shy about asking for more trees on your street. You can find the request form here: https://bcrp.baltimorecity.gov/sites/default/files/Street_Tree_Request_Form.pdf. The many new trees lining Overhill Road and Millbrook Road, to name two, were planted this Spring by the Forestry Division at our request. Many thanks to Forestry — Guilford loves the new trees.

Lastly, I request that we all respect our trees, especially trees which are irresistible to kids who like to climb and jump up and down on branches. If a limb bounces up and down it is not strong enough to hold the weight being put on it. Even if the branch does not break immediately, it is being damaged and eventually will break off, possibly with a child or two on it. The goal is safety for our children and respect for our trees.

Thank you for volunteering to care for trees, both public and private — it is greatly appreciated by the Guilford Community.

The Case of the Missing Tulips

Despite our record breaking tulip dig at Sherwood Gardens, many of this year's tulips just did not come up — thousands of them. Then there was the pervasive lesser celandine, like a buttercup — one person's weed another's flower. Next the wind — so much wind that our tulips' petals were blown away before the season's usual peak.

Despite the above, earlier in Spring we had an enormous number of visitors who saw amazing drifts of tulips, narcissus and hyacinth all of which contributed to the panoramic beauty of Sherwood Gardens. The empty spaces were not too obvious. I heard one person exclaim that the yellow flowers among the tulips, i.e. lesser celandine, was a brilliant touch!

The question we are trying to answer is: what happened to the tulip bulbs?

After consulting with friends of Sherwood Gardens and professionals who walked the garden with me — those who supply the bulbs, plant the bulbs, maintain the beds, design the garden, treat the soil (being tested), there are many possibilities but no definitive answers or solutions.

The most often stated possibility is the record rain this past winter — sitting in water may have caused the bulbs to rot. We dug in many empty spots and found no bulbs. The next possibility is

animals. Deer and squirrels digging and eating. Yes, we have the occasional deer in the gardens. It is also possible that in a few spots lesser celandine crowded out the bulbs.

Most likely our problem is a combination of all of the above. Your expertise, ideas, suggestions are welcome. Please email them to me at margaret@guilfordassociation.org. Thank you.

Loyola Campus Master Plan



For several decades Loyola University and the communities that surround the campus have engaged in a process that involves the communities in a dialogue with Loyola concerning university development decisions. The communities collectively meet as the North Baltimore Neighborhood Coalition (NBNC) and the Guilford Association is an active participant.

NBNC has had a series of 10 year agreements with Loyola that set forth a master plan for development, enrollment caps and a process for community consultation known as the NBNC Agreement. The Agreement is currently being renegotiated for a forthcoming 10 year period.

The proposed Master Plan anticipates five major developments that are highlighted on the campus plan: A. a new 3-story addition to Beatty Hall; B. Creation of a parking area on the Cold Spring Lane triangle north of Guilford Reservoir; C. An underground parking structure; D. A new 4-story Engagement Center; E. A new 4-story residence hall to replace existing dormitories at Charles St. and Cold Spring Lane. Target enrollment at the University would increase from 3,600 to 4,000.

As in the past, the Agreement will specify a community consultation process as the plans advance or changes are considered. Anthony Gill is representing the Guilford Association in the Agreement negotiations. Lynda Riley represents the Association at regular NBNC meetings.

Several projects are being proposed along the southern edge of Loyola University's campus bordering the Guilford neighborhood.

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Board Member Spotlight — Elizabeth Comer



Guilford Association board member, Elizabeth Comer, works with the Catoctin Furnace Historical Society. The pre-Revolutionary industrial village is located south of Thurmont in Frederick County.

This early 19th log house, once home to furnace worker families, is now a museum and interpretive center telling the story of the furnace and the early American iron-making industry.

So that you may better know the members of the Association Board of Managers and understand their volunteer commitment to Guilford and interests we will be providing a series of spotlights on the individuals.



Elizabeth Anderson Comer grew up with an interest in history and preservation. Deciding at age four to become an archaeologist, she never wavered in her pursuit, earning her master's degree in anthropology with a specialization in archaeology. She is currently completing her Ph.D. in American Studies with a concentration in archaeology and heritage.

From her earliest days, she worked with her parents, Elizabeth Yourtee Anderson and G. Eugene Anderson, founding members of the Catoctin Furnace Historical Society (CFHS). This group aimed to preserve the history and village of Catoctin Furnace in northern Frederick County, Maryland. Formed in 1973, the group was founded, in part, to save the unique community and its legacy from a proposed relocation of U.S. Route 15. Although a quiet village today, in its heyday, the community of Catoctin Furnace consisted of worker houses, an ironmaster's mansion, a saw mill, a grist mill, an ore railroad, and three furnace stacks. The furnace produced shells fired on the British during the siege of Yorktown, as well as pig iron and a variety of tools and household items, including the popular 10-plate stove. The Furnace ceased

operation in 1903, and the community entered into a decades of decline.

Elizabeth came to Baltimore in 1983, when she was hired by Mayor William Donald Schaefer to establish and direct a public archaeology program in her role as the first City Archeologist and Director of The Baltimore Center for Urban Archaeology. Beginning with the Great Baltimore Brewery Dig, she involved a large number of volunteers in all aspects of the archaeological process, including the excavations at Cheapside prior to the construction of the Gallery at Harborplace. She also developed and directed all public relations functions, resulting in worldwide media coverage and eventually fostering legislation to protect finite archaeological resources.

Following Governor Schaefer to Annapolis, she became Chief Administrator for the State of Maryland Division of Tourism and Promotion, where she instituted the state's heritage tourism strategy. After marriage to archaeologist Douglas Comer and the birth of their three children, Elizabeth founded EAC/ Archaeology, Inc., a woman-owned business that performs historical research, historical and prehistoric archaeological assessment, survey, testing, and excavation projects. Elizabeth serves as Project Manager and Principal Investigator for the company and has successfully completed more than 250 archaeology projects, including sites from historic and prehistoric eras and transportation, Civil War, urban, maritime, underwater, African American, landscape, and industrial sites, as well as archival and architectural studies.



The reconstructed casting shed at the Catoctin Furnace. Here molten iron would have been poured into “pig-iron” molds.

Elizabeth has completed research on the contributions made by African-Americans to the iron industry at Catoctin Furnace during the 18th and 19th centuries.

Ms. Comer currently volunteers as Secretary of the Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, Inc. She works to raise the profile of the organization and the community of Catoctin Furnace and seeks out collaborations and partnerships with other organizations.

One of the more visible research programs which Elizabeth has been instrumental in organizing is the Catoctin Furnace African American Cemetery Commemoration Project. In the project’s beginning, Ms. Comer sought assistance from the Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) to examine human remains that had been archaeologically removed in the area’s cemetery during the 1970s/1980s as a result of highway construction. The project aims to increase heritage tourism and public awareness of the contributions made by African-Americans to the iron industry at Catoctin Furnace during the 18th and 19th centuries by examining the ancestral origins of 29 individuals who were buried in an unmarked cemetery (c. 1790–1840) at Catoctin Furnace. Ancient DNA extracted from bone or tooth samples has been collected and processed by the Reich Laboratory of Medical and Population Genetics at Harvard University. The

results of this research will be used to create a museum exhibit for the Catoctin Furnace Museum of the Ironworker, which is currently under construction.

Ms. Comer has established a “Heritage at Work” partnership with Silver Oak Academy, a residential school for at-risk teens overseen by the State of Maryland Department of Juvenile Services. Now in its seventh year, the program places historic building trades as the centerpiece that exposes students to all manners of life at the furnace. Students learn about historic reconstruction, archaeology, building trades, acting, and historic food preparation — all hands-on. In May 2019, the program was awarded Preservation Maryland’s prestigious Phoenix Award for the Catoctin Furnace historic building trades program, in which students learn valuable construction skills while working alongside preservation experts who are undertaking building rehabilitation and restoration. Students develop an understanding of building components and systems and learn to compare current technology with traditional tools and practices. This partnership is an excellent example of private and public resources coming together to save important historical buildings while improving young lives.

Doug and Elizabeth are the parents of three children: Margaret, Jacob, and Anne. In 2000, they purchased the ca.1916 Schmeisser home at 4303 North Charles Street. This three story Tudor-revival and Craftsman style home is unique in Guilford and unusual within the portfolio of Edward L. Palmer, Jr., exhibiting teutonic ideas and materials probably influenced by Siegen, Westphalia, Schmeisser’s birthplace.

Elizabeth is a Member of the Board of Managers of the Guilford Association and serves as a member of the Architectural Committee.

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The Guilford News

SUMMER 2019



Ninth and Tenth Age Calvert School Science classes visited Sherwood Gardens to learn about the Tulip Gardens and to help prepare for recycling of the bulbs. The students learned to pull the bulbs from the ground and clean them for bagged sale.
