

The Guilford News

GUILFORDASSOCIATION.ORG

SPRING 2022

The St. Paul Street Trolley Line

THE BEDFORD SQ. WAIT STATION AND THE STREETCAR LINE THAT ONCE SERVICED IT WERE AN IMPORTANT PART OF GUILFORD'S ORIGINAL TRANSIT PLAN.

TOM HOBBS

Have you wondered about the Wait Station building across from Bedford Square at the intersection of St. Paul Street and N. Charles Street and the role it played in Baltimore's transit history? It was built as part of the Roland Park Company's plan for Guilford and the Wait Station was designed by Edward Palmer, the Company's architect and designer of many Guilford homes.

The station was an important component of the Olmsted plan for St. Paul Street and the Roland Park Company's planned transit link to downtown Baltimore. Commuting would be a hallmark of the suburban lifestyle being created in the Roland Park-Guilford District. As was the experience in Roland Park, the streetcar was considered the most reliable way of getting downtown and back in spite of the increasing popularity of the automobile.

Initially, a railroad along Charles Street, known as the "Charles Street Line," began operation in 1862. The No. 11 streetcar replaced that operation. It is that line that was to be extended into Guilford. In order to assure that the trolleys would be compatible with the aesthetic environment of Guilford a unique

See GUILFORD TROLLEY, page 6

Car 5572 at the Bedford Square wait station in March of 1947. The station provided interior and exterior waiting areas for patrons as well as interior restrooms.



Guilford in 1:87 scale. The B&O Railroad Museum's newly opened Model Train Gallery features representations of Baltimore buildings and sites, including a miniature Sherwood Gardens and a number of Guilford homes.



The Board of Managers has continued to meet virtually. With the addition of new board members elected at the Annual Meeting there have been committee assignment changes. Association officers were elected at the January meeting. I have agreed to continue as President, Margaret Alton will continue as Vice President and Sarah Crowe as Secretary. Jon Kucskar was elected Association Treasurer and will chair the Finance Committee. Alan Garten and Danielle Curry will co-chair the Neighborhood Security Committee; Richard Yost will chair Traffic and Parking; Community Engagement/Events will be co-chaired by Erika Nolan and Kelly Maher. Margaret Alton will continue to chair Parks, including Sherwood Gardens; I will continue to chair Architecture; Kelly Maher will chair Greenmount Avenue/York Road; Jeremy Hoffman the newsletter; and Cathy Boyne the Reservoir and the North Baltimore Neighborhood Coalition. All of this information, including full committee membership and contact links are found on the Guilford website. The following is in summary the focus of Board priorities.

Traffic. We continue to seek approval for parking restricted to one side of Stratford Road, Underwood Road and E. Highfield Road in the blocks that abut Sherwood Gardens. The request has been supported by Council representative Ramos and the Baltimore City Police Northern District. The City Department of Transportation (DOT) has been slow to respond but the hope is to have the restriction in place by the time of tulip bloom. In addition, efforts continue to reestablish the traffic island at Greenway, Northway and Millbrook both for reason of traffic calming and restoration of the Olmsted streetscape plan. Again, it has been difficult to get action

from DOT. Prioritizing locations for sidewalk replacement is being inventoried. A number of traffic calming proposals and parking issues are before the committee as well.

Community Safety. Committee chairs Garten and Curry have assumed oversight of the Guilford Security Patrol (GSP). They have met with Wolf Security to review policies and patrol activities. A meeting also has taken place with Major Shorter, the recently appointed commander of the Northern District of the Police Department, and other Northern District personnel. While there have been few crime activities recently in Guilford, additional security options are being reviewed to further enhance community safety.

Community Parks and Sherwood Gardens. These prime parks have been even more important to Guilford residents during the pandemic. All of the parks are carefully maintained with tree trimming, removal when necessary and replanting. I've mentioned the near completion of the implementation of the long-range plan to restore Sherwood Gardens closer to the Olmsted and Sherwood visions. In addition to the tulip display more of the beds will be planted with summer flowers this year. Unfortunately, several of the ancient oaks in the Gardens were recently lost which even more heightened our continual effort to replant as the trees and shrubs age or decline. The Sherwood Gardens website has been enhanced. Visit the site at: sherwoodgardens.org

Architecture. The committee reviews all proposed alterations to the exterior of properties. In addition, because all properties listed for sale are reviewed for covenant compliance the number of listings last year increased the demands on the committee.

Compliance with the Architectural Guidelines is generally excellent in Guilford and it is reflected in the appearance, respected standards and property values in the community. The committee is responsible for monitoring compliance with the architectural standards and where necessary when issues are not resolved covenant violation notices must be issued.

Community Engagement/Events. Because of pandemic restrictions community events and group interaction have been suspended. During the two plus year period not only have residents missed interaction at the family picnic in Sherwood Gardens, concerts and other events but we have not been able to welcome and engage the many new families that now make Guilford their home. The Events Committee is planning ways to resume and increase community engagement and they will be seeking resident suggestions and reaction to a number of proposals that might involve virtual and in-person events, increased e-mail communications and use of social media.

Greenmount Avenue/York Road. This important eastern side of Guilford remains a focus of efforts to coordinate improvements and engagement with adjacent communities. The Guilford Association is opposing the proposed crematorium north of Cold Spring Lane together with other community members of the York Road Partnership. Now that heavy construction activities are complete paving and improved streetscape are to follow in the spring. Property improvement efforts continue with guidance from the Architectural Committee.

The disposition of the Guilford Elementary school site remains a priority matter. The City issued a request for acquisition interest but all respondents were determined not to be sufficiently responsive to the invitation. Among the requirements, the proposal must be compliant with the Guilford Deed and Agreement that requires the site to be used for educational purpose. Proposals likely will be sought again in the spring. The Board of Managers has discussed definition for education use so that the criteria are consistently presented by the City when attempting to market the site.

Newsletter. The newsletter is an important means of communicating events and activities, community life, major renovations and Guilford history. While we have been issuing the newsletter three times a year we will be attempting to issue quarterly. Suggested articles and volunteer writers are welcome. The Guilford News is the only Association endorsed and affiliated Guilford community publication.

In this issue of the newsletter articles feature distinguished Guilford resident Dr. Paul McHugh and his unique Art Deco house, discussion with the owners of three neighboring restaurants about their adaptations during the pandemic, the Bedford Square Wait Station and the St. Paul Street trolley, Richard Macksey's quintessential scholar's library discussed in the *New York Times*, recognition of donors to Sherwood Gardens, Loyola University's proposed parking use for the Cold Spring Lane triangle parcel and our regular coverage of real estate transactions.

Enjoy the read. Stay safe and thank you for your support.

Tom Hobbs



Guilford History

A number of residents have requested access to or copies of the series of Guilford history articles that appeared in the newsletter before and during Guilford's centennial. All of these articles can be read in the newsletter archives beginning in Fall 2010. However, to make access easier the articles have been consolidated into one file accessed at: guilfordassociation.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Guilford_News_History_Archive.pdf We also are considering printing the articles in hard copy.

Life Among the Tulips Confusion

It has come to the attention of the Board of Managers that there is a great deal of confusion about the possible affiliation of Guilford and the Guilford Association to the *Life Among the Tulips* magazine and its multi-media posts and events purporting to represent Guilford. There is no association.

N2 Publishing, a North Carolina based print media company, has been distributing to Guilford residents a magazine titled *Life Among the Tulips*. The company operates through a franchise business model and represents that it distributes the magazines to neighborhoods of "affluent families" nationwide. The publisher and franchisee make money by attracting advertisers that wish to market to the designated neighborhood.

The Guilford Association has no affiliation with the N2 publication or its area director Melissa Shifflett and does not endorse the magazine. Nor is there any Guilford Association endorsement of the advertisers or the articles that appear in the publication, the representations on Facebook, Instagram and any other media outlet nor of their sponsored events.

The Guilford News is the official community news publication and is produced, endorsed, supported and distributed by the Guilford Association. We hope that you continue to enjoy *The Guilford News* and welcome contribution of articles or suggested subjects to cover in future issues.



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16 WHITFIELD RD
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4414 UNDERWOOD RD
List Price: \$920,000
Closing Price: \$950,000



302 NORTHWAY
List Price: \$790,000
Closing Price: \$790,000



402 NORTHWAY
List Price: \$635,000
Closing Price: \$667,000

4300 WENDOVER RD
List Price: \$694,900
Closing Price: \$680,000



Guilford Property Sales

DECEMBER 4, 2021 – MARCH 1, 2022

203 E. HIGHFIELD RD
List Price: \$1,900,000
Closing Price: \$1,900,000



4101 N. CHARLES ST
List Price: \$839,000
Closing Price: \$800,000

207 KEMBLE RD
List Price: \$633,900
Closing Price: \$633,900



224 E. 39TH ST
List Price: \$599,000
Closing Price: \$580,000



Active Properties

AS OF MARCH 1, 2022

List price

15 CHARLCOTE PL	\$4,250,000
4300 RUGBY RD*	\$1,779,000
43 WARRENTON RD*	\$1,150,000
29 WARRENTON RD	\$825,000
3900 GREENWAY*	\$788,000
401 SOUTHWAY*	\$695,000
4207 SAINT PAUL ST*	\$649,900
3807 JUNIPER RD*	\$619,000
3518 GREENMOUNT AVE*	\$449,000
3810 GREENMOUNT AVE	\$274,900

*Under Contract



8 E. BISHOPS RD
List Price: \$850,000
Closing Price: \$907,000

203 CHANCERY RD
List Price: \$799,000
Closing Price: \$766,750



211 CHANCERY RD
List Price: \$600,000
Closing Price: \$575,000

NEIGHBORHOOD HISTORY

GUILFORD TROLLEY, *From page 1*

trolley layout was designed for the boulevard-like St. Paul Street as it passed through the heart of the community. The tracks did not run down the center of the street or in a median in the typical track position. Rather, the two tracks of the No. 11 line through Guilford to Bedford Square were split with a separate track on each side of the roadway set in a private reservation and bordered by a well-trimmed hedge and natural plantings.

The availability of the streetcar service and access to the Bedford Square wait station was used in the marketing of Guilford. Transit service beyond the initial line was later extended north by connection from Bedford Square to Homeland and Murray Hill. At a time when automobiles were overtaking the streetcar, the Bedford Square waiting station was promoted as a “kiss and ride” station where husbands could be dropped off by their wives in the family car and then could take either the No. 11 or No. 1 streetcar to work downtown, thus avoiding downtown parking hassles.

The demise of the Baltimore streetcar took place between the years of 1947 and 1963, hastened by acquisition of the Baltimore Transit Company and the replacement of the streetcar with buses which were promoted as requiring less maintenance and providing greater flexibility in traffic. The St. Paul Street tracks were removed about 1947. With that change the planted hedges and landscaping along the sides of the roadway were removed and the street reconfigured with an ugly concrete median that stretched from Overhill Road south to University Parkway. That unfortunate alteration to the intended design of the street remained until 2009 when the Guilford Association convinced the City to remove the concrete median and install a planted median. The median that was created restores a landscaped boulevard more like that intended in the Olmsted plan and greatly improves the street as both an entrance to Guilford and pathway to the City. The Association carefully maintains the median, replacing or enhancing the plantings as required.

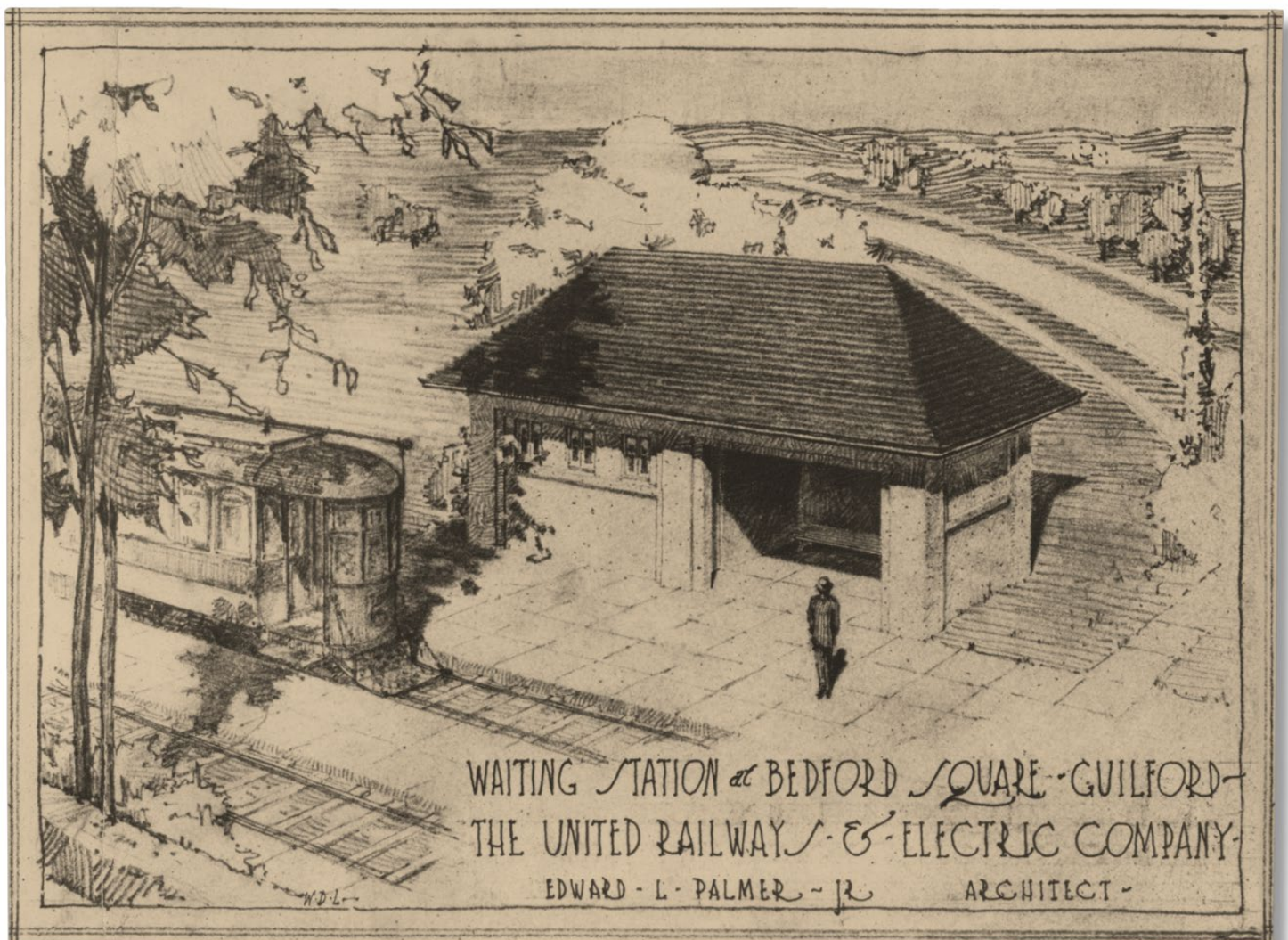


PHOTO BY GEORGE J. VOITH, COURTESY HERBERT H. HARWOOD JR.



Rear view of a streetcar leaving the Bedford Square wait station for downtown. A hedge and other plantings separated the tracks from the roadway.

The streetcar tracks terminated at Bedford Square. There, riders could transfer to buses for destinations further north.



JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

View looking northwest at Bedford Square. Streetcar 5580 departs for downtown as another car in the distance waits at the station.

The Bedford Square wait station was designed by Edward Palmer who also designed many of the homes in Guilford.



PHOTO BY GEORGE J. VOITH, COURTESY HERBERT H. HARWOOD JR.

View looking southeast from the Bedford Square wait station with car 5591 arriving (left) as another car heads south for downtown. A single track ran on each side of St. Paul Street.

Colorized photo of a Brill 1905 double-end, double truck, semi-convertible streetcar photographed south of Bedford Square in June 1947.



PHOTO BY GEORGE J. VOITH, COURTESY HERBERT H. HARWOOD, JR.



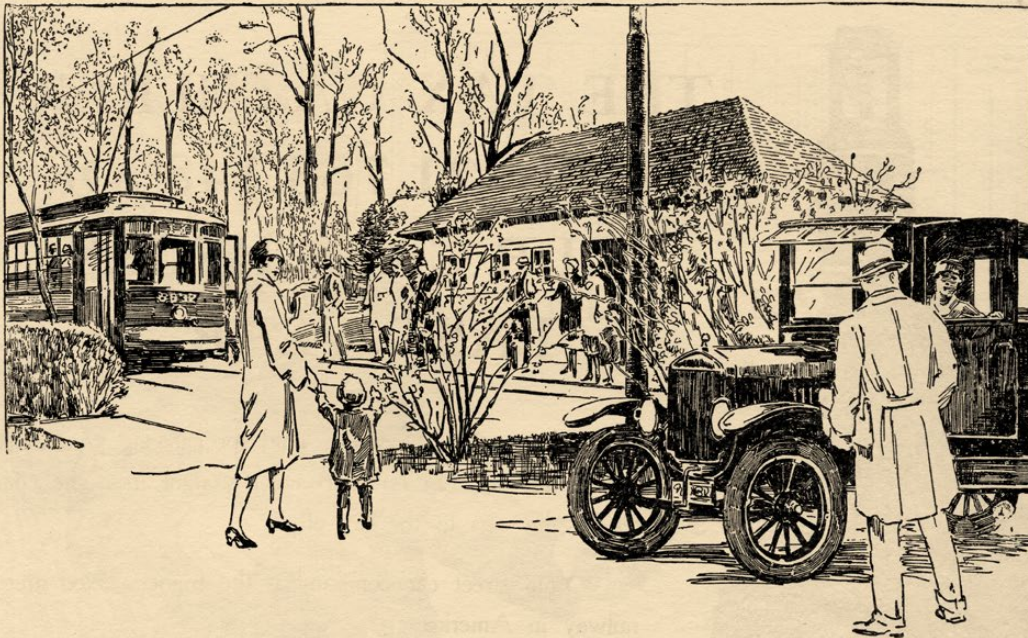
A United Railway & Electric Company transit token would buy you one ride on a Baltimore streetcar.

Produced in the mid-1920's, these Homeland-Guilford tokens were likely a marketing tool used by the Roland Park Homeland Company to encourage city residents to use the St. Paul Street Trolley and connecting bus service to visit the newly established Homeland neighborhood.

NEIGHBORHOOD HISTORY

At the Baltimore Streetcar Museum on Falls Road you can learn about Baltimore's street railways and see and perhaps ride in the type of streetcars that traveled through Guilford on St. Paul Street and on Greenmount Avenue. There was a time when residents of Baltimore could take a trolley throughout the developed city and beyond. The first efforts to provide public transportation started as horse drawn omnibus lines. By 1890 there were 178 cars and 1,283 horses in service. In 1885 the first commercially operated electric streetcar in America began operation in Baltimore. There followed trolleys on tracks operated by various companies some

powered by steam and steel cables others using electric powered cars. A consolidation of disparate trolley companies and the various types of trolleys, tracks and power sources resulted in standardization through a merger with the United Railways and Electric Company (UR&E) and construction of a large coal burning power plant on Pratt Street where some of the 190-foot tall smokestacks remain at the Power Plant entertainment complex today.



April 1926 United Railway & Electric Company advertisement (illustrated by Willem Wirtz) featuring Guilford's Bedford Square wait station.

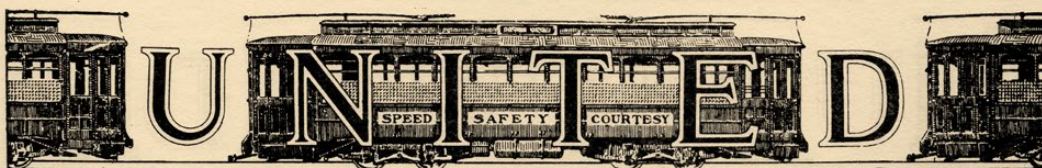
No Parking Problem About This

This Suburbanite could have driven on down town, wasted part of the morning finding a place to park his car, allowed the sun to bake the paint and the dust of the city streets to ruin his machine.

But, he values his time, he counts his costs, so he drives from his country home to the street car line and comes down town reading his paper in comfort.

No parking problem bothers him. His wife has the use of the car and he knows that the way to save time as well as money is to

Ride the Cars



An Art Deco style “House of Tomorrow” in Guilford – 3707 St. Paul Street

TOM HOBBS

In 1936 George Streeter, one of the world’s leading embryologists and the Director of the Department of Embryology at the Carnegie Institute in Washington, and his wife Julia Streeter, purchased one of the last remaining lots in Guilford. The St. Paul Street site bordered the Little Park on the south and had an open expanse to St. Martin’s Road on the north. John Ahlers, supervising architect of the Roland Park Company, was hired to design the new home.

The design of the house was revolutionary for Guilford where classic revival architecture was the norm. Before the Streeters occupied the house, the Roland Park Company used it as an exhibition house, which they dubbed “The House of Tomorrow.” For an admission fee of 10 cents, the public could tour the house. Promoters termed the house restrained modern on both the interior and exterior. Causing quite a reaction, the *Baltimore Sun* in 1937, featured an article declaring “Housing — Modern Architecture Now Invades Guilford.”

Still today the house is notable for its style and admired as an example of Art Deco architecture. It’s featured in *Washington and Baltimore Art Deco: A Design History of Neighboring Cities* by Richard Steiner and Melissa Blair. “The House of Tomorrow” is a two story white painted brick house that uses elements of modernized classicism but without the disciplined rigor of classical symmetry. The ornamentation of the house includes a cornice with brick dental scored pilasters at the corners, repeated in the copper scuppers of the downspouts and vertical glass-block sidelights at both entrances.

The house is an L-shaped building with a low hip roof clad in copper that looks almost flat. The façade, facing south, is symmetrical — a central door is flanked by large, fifteen-pane



Today, “The House of Tomorrow” at 3707 St. Paul Street looks the same as it did when it was first unveiled in 1936.

windows on the first floor, and a long vertical expanse of glass block directly above the door is flanked by eight-pane windows on the second floor. The recessed door is surrounded by glass block. This entrance that faces Little Park no longer serves as the primary entrance. The house is now accessed by what was once a secondary entrance on the north façade.

What is Art Deco? Art Deco, also called style moderne, is a movement in the decorative arts and architecture that originated in the 1920s and developed into a major style in western Europe and the United States during the 1930s. It emerged from the 1925 Paris Exposition of Decorative and Industrial Arts. The distinguishing features of the style are simple, clean shapes, often with “streamlined” look; ornament that is geometric or stylized, often of expensive man-made and natural materials. Art Deco creators included furniture designers, architects, metalsmiths, jewelers, sculptors, fashion designers and graphic artists. Among the formative influences on Art Deco were Art Nouveau, the Bauhaus and Cubism.

Dr. Paul McHugh

KELLI COMBERIATE

The story of how Dr. Paul McHugh and his wife, Jean McHugh, came to live at the “House of Tomorrow” began when Dr. McHugh received a job at The Johns Hopkins Hospital in 1975.

“I was coming here to Hopkins to be the Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry. At the time I was living in Portland, Oregon. The thought of moving to Baltimore, at least to my wife, was rather hard to leave the beautiful Northwest. So, I had to find something very attractive to her,” says Dr. McHugh.

“I needed to find a nice and interesting place for her and my children. They said one place is rather unique; you might like it. It was splendid, it was just what you’d want. A unique house in the neighborhood, a little park in the back. In the front it had another unit of space with a beautiful lawn. It was like living in a park, it was just so beautiful. I then discovered it was quite a special house built in the 1930’s. One of the local architects was quite gifted . . . so we moved in.”

In terms of changing the house, the McHughs have retained its integrity. “We’ve kept it very much the same, keeping it up with the 1930’s flavor of brick. Except for painting it, which we need to do again, we’ve done little to change it,” says Dr. McHugh.

Upon entering the house, the first thing you’ll notice is the abundance of light that filters through the unusual bricks of glass found throughout.

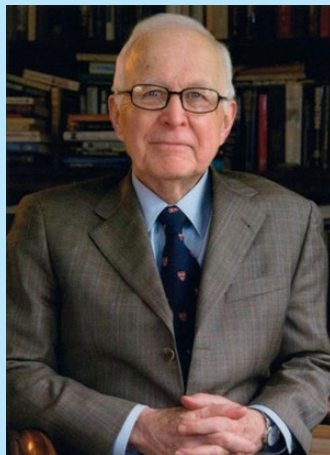
Dr. McHugh says he spends a lot of his time in his living room. It’s especially beautiful in the winter time where he can view the falling snow against the evergreens.

Since he had to buy the house on his own, he took a risk that his family would not approve, but fortunately they did. The only aspect of the house his wife did not care for was the kitchen which she called “poky.” Thankfully, she made due and was able to cook meals there for 45 years.

Original details abound, including a unique blue tile in the master bath which matches the beautiful blue detailing on the ceiling. “We’re very fortunate to live in a historic house,” says Dr. McHugh.

With Little Park backing up to the property, the McHughs have enjoyed living in the midst of greenery. They’ve also enjoyed living next to wonderful and interesting neighbors.

“The neighbors are very gifted people, we live next door to Richard Macksey’s house. He had one of the best libraries in America and we became good friends.”



Dr. McHugh also enjoys the proximity to Johns Hopkins. “I can walk over to the Homewood campus and visit the libraries and athletic center. I can drive to the hospital within 15 minutes.”

To sum up his time spent in Guilford, Dr. McHugh says, “If I had to do it all again, I would.”

Dr. McHugh has had quite the notable career spanning over six decades. He graduated from Harvard Medical School in 1956 and then Dr. George Thorn, the physician-in-chief at Peter Bent Brigham Hospital (now Brigham and Women’s Hospital) started to influence his education.

Dr. Thorn steered Dr. McHugh away from Freudian psychiatry which was popular at the time and encouraged him to enter the field of psychiatry by first learning about neurology. He went on to study neurology and neuropathology at the Massachusetts General Hospital.

Over the years, Dr. McHugh has held various academic and administrative positions, including assistant professor, associate professor, and professor of psychiatry and neurology at Cornell University Medical College. He eventually left New York to become Professor and Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Oregon Health Sciences Center.

From 1975 until 2001, Dr. McHugh served as the Henry Phipps Professor of Psychiatry and the director of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science at the Johns Hopkins University. During that time he also was the professor of mental hygiene in the Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health.

His research has focused on the neuroscientific foundations of motivated behaviors, psychiatric genetics, epidemiology, and neuropsychiatry. He’s co-authored more than 125 peer-reviewed articles and in 1975 he co-authored a paper titled, “Mini-Mental State: A Practical Method for Grading Cognitive State of Patients for the Clinician,” which details the Mini Mental State Exam (MMSE), the most widely used tests in the mental health field. In 1983 he also co-authored “The Perspectives of Psychiatry” which presented the Johns Hopkins approach to psychiatry.

“Throughout the 1990s, McHugh was active in debunking the idea of recovered memory, the idea that people could suddenly and spontaneously remember childhood sexual abuse. In 2001, McHugh was appointed by President George W. Bush to the Presidential Council on Bioethics, which was charged with the task of making recommendations as to what the U.S. federal government’s policy regarding embryonic stem cells should be. In 2002, McHugh was appointed to a lay panel assembled by the Roman Catholic Church to look into sexual abuse by priests,” according to The Portrait Collection of The Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions.

Despite his illustrious career, Dr. McHugh has no plans to slow down. At 90, he still serves as the University Distinguished Service Professor of Psychiatry at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

Three Restaurants Survive Amidst Chaos

KELLI COMBERIATE

The pandemic has been harsh to many industries, but the restaurant industry especially has experienced its ill effects. Fortunately, the restaurants near Guilford are blessed with patrons who are intent on keeping them afloat no matter the challenges. Cypriana on 39th St, the Ambassador Dining Room on Canterbury Road, and Gertrude's located inside the BMA have all managed to stay open the majority of the past two years, but not without difficulties.

"It has been like walking a tightrope. It hasn't been easy. The closing and opening, the closing and opening that Baltimore City imposed sent customers to the County," says Maria Kaimakis, Executive Chef and Owner of Cypriana. She explained that once people go to another restaurant three or four times, bartenders learn their name, and customers eventually find a new home.

A recent devastating event occurred at the end of December. "200 reservations were on the books for New Year's Eve but only 59 ended up coming," says Kaimakis. "They don't realize that you purchased the food, you scheduled your staff, you have to pay them." Cypriana made the difficult decision to close their dining room for now and are offering only curbside pickup.

"It's not the same food people are used to," says Kaimakis. "Plus, I don't like curbside because I don't get to interact with anyone."

Kaimaki's husband, Vassos Yiannouris, explains that they don't offer delivery because their food doesn't travel well, and even carryout compromises the integrity of their dishes. They're currently evaluating when they're going to open their dining room again, but with the cold weather and the rise of Omicron it won't be easy.

Also, "The mask mandate was an issue. It hurt the business negatively. We have a lot of customers from Baltimore County . . . and they didn't want to wear a mask in the City when they didn't have to in the County," says Yiannouris.

He did praise Guilford customers for being "good sports" and patronizing their establishment despite their limitations.

Gertrude's Chesapeake Kitchen has encountered similar issues. "We had to close recently for 12 days in January, (starting) the night before New Year's Eve, but besides that we've been on and off as new variants have come through," says Alexa Parris, Hostess and Reservation Manager for Gertrude's. "We've been able to come back on our feet each time."

Each restaurant has had to adapt over the past two years, including the Ambassador Dining Room. Gopal Bishwakarma, the owner, says when the weather was warm they focused on outside dining. Unfortunately, now that it's cold, it's been hard to do it. Currently, they're focusing on carry out and delivery until the weather warms up.

Gertrude's has been promoting take out around the holidays. Parris explains that both their Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve carryout options were very successful, and they're offering a Valentine's Day menu as well. These have taken the place of their usual holiday events.

In terms of business in general, all three restaurants have made adjustments. "We've adjusted seating to accommodate social distancing. Before the strike of Omicron we loosened things up and seated more closely but, we've reverted back to stage 1," says Parris. Thankfully, "We have a really great clientele who have come in. We're really grateful to them."

Bishwakarma says they've started offering promotions. Through the end of February they offered 25% off all orders, including dine-in, pick-up, and delivery orders. Dining has unfortunately dropped 75%, but they are still offering the option. Sales have dropped 50% overall.

He's hoping business will pick up once the weather gets warmer, since more people are comfortable eating outside. They do have patio heaters, which helps when it's a little chilly, but he knew January and February would be slow regardless. "My goal right now is to survive," says Bishwakarma.

Gertrude's technically offers both indoor and outdoor seating, but their outdoor seating is still fully enclosed (to keep it heated). There are filtrations throughout the space and they've made adjustments to their air ventilation systems to keep everyone as safe as possible.

Staffing has been another challenge for both Cypriana and Gertrude's. "We tried to keep as many people as we can, which is why we switched to take-away. We had a major issue in May with staffing. Customers wanted to be outside but, servers were getting a check from the government, so they weren't showing up. When servers were ready to come back, cold weather rolled in," says Yiannouris.

Parris says they have been "riding the waves staffing wise. We do have a good amount of people who have stayed with us, but it depends on the public demand. We were building a bigger staff back but then had to cut back. It depends on the need for guests. We're typically reservation based, but we do take walk-ins as well since we're located in the museum."

Thankfully, staffing has been one issue the Ambassador hasn't had to deal with. Bishwakarma explains, "I paid them even when they weren't working. I invested in them so I would still have staff when I needed them." So far, it's been a good investment.

With the challenges experienced by all, everyone has stuck for the most part to their tried and true dishes. "The menu is the same. Take-away is scaled back of course. We're a true authentic Mediterranean restaurant, from old world recipes going back to our great grandparents. A lot of vegetarian and vegan options. No preservatives in anything because we make everything including our dressings," says Yiannouris.

He goes on to explain that they stick to very traditional dishes because they've been blessed with amazing family recipes. They don't create something new for the sake of a picture in a menu. Their fare is "Greek food elevated" because of the Armenian influence, as well as the surrounding neighbors of Cyprus.

After they came back from closing during the beginning of the pandemic, Gertrude's decided to reinvent themselves. "When we came back we rebranded (typically known for their fine dining experience) as a cafe-style restaurant while maintaining the fine dining style," says Parris. They still had the same menu but it was reduced. Their fan favorites such as their crab cakes were still present, but there weren't as many separate menus as before.

For the Ambassador, new dishes will depend on supply. Bishwakarma explains that they don't have money to waste. Their plan is to wait until the summer when the weather is warmer to debut some new fare.

If you're inspired to try one or all three of these restaurants (if you haven't already) you'll find too many delicious items to choose between. The Ambassador Dining Room recommends their Naan and Chicken Tikka Masala, as well as their Goa Fish and Crab Malabar.

Cypriana specializes in small plates. Their Salad Sampler is particularly popular, along with their Sesame-Roasted Feta, and homemade Pita which has been described as "amazing." Everything is made from scratch, so you can't go wrong.

"Gertie's Crab Cake is of course our fan favorite," says Parris but they also have a "plethora of brunch specials, decided each week." She also mentions their Salmon Alla Bella as being very popular, along with their small plates. They offer patrons the option of a tasty sandwich for a quick lunch, or a full fine dining experience for dinner, accompanied by wine. If you visit them on a Wednesday, you'll enjoy their half-price wine specials, available on both bottles and by the glass.

Despite the challenges of the past two years, these three restaurants are all surviving. They've found ways to adapt and have not given up amidst forced closings, mask mandates, staff shortages, and community fear.

Cypriana started as a food cart in 1990. They launched their first brick-and-mortar in 1993, and now have three different locations in downtown Baltimore. Ambassador Dining Room opened in 1997 with Bishwakarma taking over in 2019. Gertrude's was founded by John Shields and John Gilligan around the same time in 1998. They've all been community staples for over 20 years, and with your help they'll continue to be for the next two decades and beyond.

WILL KIRK / JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY



Richard Macksey's personal library at his residence on St. Martin's Road. The image is often shared online. Dr. Macksey died in 2019.

A Library the Internet Can't Get Enough Of

KATE DWYER

The following article is reprinted from the *New York Times*. It first appeared on January 16, 2022. More information about the late Professor Richard Macksey, his Guilford home and extraordinary library can be found in the article that appeared in the Winter 2016 edition of *The Guilford News*. The article is found in the newsletter archives accessed on the Guilford website: guilfordassociation.org/wp-content/uploads/guilford_news_winter_2016.pdf

WHY DOES THIS IMAGE KEEP RESURFACING ON SOCIAL MEDIA?

On the first Tuesday of the year, the author and political activist Don Winslow tweeted a photograph of an avid reader's dream library. Bathed in the buttery glow of three table lamps, almost every surface of the room is covered with books. There are books on the tables, books stacked on mahogany ladders, and books atop still more books lining the shelves of the room. "I hope you see the beauty in this that I do," Mr. Winslow wrote in the tweet, which has been acknowledged with 32,800 hearts.

If you spend enough time in the literary corners of Twitter, this image may look familiar. It rises again just about annually, and the library has been attributed over the years to authors including Umberto Eco and buildings in Italy and Prague. As with other images featuring beautiful bookshelves, people go absolutely

bananas for it. Mr. Winslow's post received 1,700 comments, including one from a professor at Pace University who has been using the photo as his Zoom background.

"It's clearly the home of a person who loves and collects books," Mr. Winslow said in an e-mail through his agent, Shane Salerno. "For me, I think that photo is as stunning as a sunset. I could spend days and days locked in that library examining each book." He noted that there's something comforting about the image, since "it's a room you could happily get lost in."

Mr. Winslow had no idea the origin of the photo. He himself had found it on Twitter, but didn't remember the name or location of the library. (Though he believed it to be the personal library of a prominent author from another country.)

The library, it should be known, is not in Europe. It doesn't even exist anymore. But when it did, it was the home library of Johns Hopkins professor Dr. Richard Macksey in Baltimore. (I was his student in 2015 and interviewed him for Literary Hub in 2018.) Dr. Macksey, who passed away in 2019, was a book collector, polyglot and scholar of comparative literature. At Hopkins, he founded one of the country's first interdisciplinary academic departments and organized the 1966 conference "The Languages of Criticism and the Sciences of Man," which included seminal lectures by the theorists Jacques Derrida, Roland Barthes, Jacques Lacan and Paul de Man.

Dr. Macksey's book collection clocked in at 51,000 titles, according to his son, Alan, excluding magazines and other ephemera. A decade ago, the most valuable pieces — including first editions of "Moby Dick," T.S. Eliot's "Prufrock and Other Observations," and works by Wordsworth, Keats and Shelley — were moved to a "special collections" room on the Hopkins campus. After Dr. Macksey's death, a S.W.A.T. team-like group of librarians and conservators spent three weeks combing through his book-filled, 7,400-square-foot house to select 35,000 volumes to add to the university's libraries.

Surprise discoveries included an 18th-century Rousseau text with charred covers (found in the kitchen), a "pristine" copy of a rare 1950s exhibition catalog showing Wassily Kandinsky's paintings, posters from the May 1968 protests when students in Paris occupied the Sorbonne, a hand-drawn Christmas card from the filmmaker John Waters, and the original recordings of the theorists at that 1966 structuralism conference.

"For years, everyone had said 'there's got to be recordings of those lectures.' Well, we finally found the recordings of those lectures. They were hidden in a cabinet behind a bookshelf behind a couch," said Liz Mengel, associate director of collections and academic services for the Sheridan Libraries at Johns Hopkins. Several first editions by 20th-century poets and novelists sat on a shelf in the laundry room.

After the librarians from Hopkins and nearby Loyola Notre Dame were finished selecting their donations, the remaining books were carted away by a dealer, so Dr. Macksey's son could prepare the house to be sold.

The library image sidesteps all those details to evoke something more universal, said Ingrid Fetell Lee, the author of the *Aesthetics of Joy*, a blog about the relationship between décor and delight. "We're attracted to the image, and we come up with all sorts of stories about who it might be and what it might be because we love to tell stories," she said. "But what's really driving the attraction is much more visceral."

Ms. Fetell Lee pointed to the photo's sense of abundance. "There's something about the sensorial abundance of seeing lots of something that gives us a little thrill," she said. Also relevant: the "satisfying" sense of organized chaos, and the awe inspired by the high ceilings.

Pictures of books and libraries are popular across social platforms. A representative from Instagram said that some of the top-liked posts on the platform that include the words "library" or "libraries" feature large quantities of books, a "cozy" aesthetic or a warmer color scheme.

What would Dr. Macksey think if he knew his library had taken on a life of its own? "My dad liked nothing better than sharing his love of books and literature with others," Alan Macksey said. "He'd be delighted that his library lives on through this photo."

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Lesser Celandine

MARGARET ALTON

I am often asked how to get rid of lesser celandine — the plant that becomes an impenetrable carpet of green with yellow, buttercup-like flowers every spring. Note that I did not refer to lesser celandine as a “weed” as some find it to be a very attractive plant. But it is a very “invasive” plant! It overwhelms the growth of other plants crowding them out and leaving a web of smothering plant material.

When celandine looks like it has died — it actually hasn’t! The plant is just gathering energy for next spring’s bloom. Included here is picture of a trowel of dirt filled with lesser celandine tubers gathering energy. They are plentiful and appear on the surface as tiny innocuous finger-like bulbs. The tubers and all attached material must be removed in order to permanently get rid of the plant.

Even herbicides, like Round Up, are not all that effective as it is difficult for the chemicals to reach each and every tuber. When applied as directed, herbicides must be reapplied year after year to completely eradicate lesser celandine. Removing the tubers, and the soil in which the tubers thrive, is the only non-poisonous way to get rid of the plant.

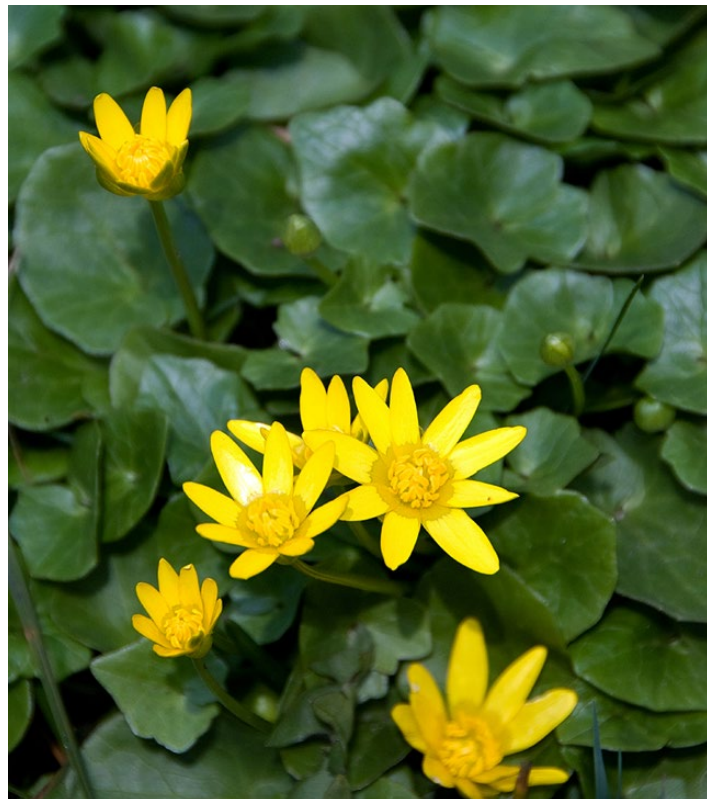
The Ohio State University Extension (Buckeye Yard & Garden Online) has an extensive article on lesser celandine, featuring lots of photos illustrating the plant’s life cycle: “A Beautiful Plant with an Ugly Nature” — bygl.osu.edu/index.php/node/1762

Anatomy of Lesser Celandine

Lesser Celandine, *Ranunculus ficaria* L., also known as Fig Buttercup, is an herbaceous, flowering, perennial plant native to Europe. It was brought to the United States as an ornamental plant. It can be identified by its glossy, dark green, kidney-shaped leaves with its bright yellow flowers blooming in early spring. It spreads using its finger-like tuberous roots and blooms from March through April.

Caltha palustris, a.k.a. Marsh marigold, is a native plant that looks very similar to Lesser Celandine. This look-alike tends to grow in much wetter, marshy habitats, and forms in clumps rather than spreading out across the ground. Another way to tell the two apart is that Lesser Celandine typically has 7-12 petals, while Marsh Marigold has 5-9. Be sure that the plant you are looking at is indeed Lesser Celandine before attempting to remove it.

Lesser Celandine is invasive in 22 states and parts of Canada. It arrives early in the spring, spreading out over the ground, creating a thick carpet, making it virtually impossible for native understory plants to grow and survive there. Native wildflowers are particularly negatively impacted by this invasive species. Lesser Celandine prefers partially shaded areas, but is capable of growing in direct sunlight if it has adequate soil moisture. *From Sierra Club, Md. Chapter, Invasive Species of the Month, May 2019*



Lesser celandine produces finger-like tubers that form underground and tiny “bulbils” that form under its leaves. The tubers and bulbils allow the plant to spread rapidly.

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Loyola University – Planned Parking at the Cold Spring Triangle

A 146-space parking area is being planned in the triangular piece of land between Cold Spring Lane and Old Cold Spring Lane.

The triangle of land between Cold Spring Lane and Old Cold Spring Lane for the past five years has been the staging site for the Guilford reservoir construction. The land is owned by Loyola University and is being vacated by the reservoir construction contractors now that the reservoir work is complete. The university plans to utilize the site for much needed parking. That use is part of the university's long-term plan and was endorsed by the North Baltimore Neighborhood Coalition, including Guilford. Development plans have been prepared to accommodate parking

and the Guilford Association Architectural Committee has reviewed the development options. The Architectural Committee on behalf of the Association has insisted that there be no entry or exit on Underwood Road and that the parking be screened from the surrounding area by screen planting, particularly along the Underwood Road edge which is across from residences. Those concerns have been addressed in the above plan.

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WILL KIRK / JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

The Guilford community thanks the Johns Hopkins University for the invitation to use their pop-up ice rink at Homewood this winter. Many Guilford families got to enjoy the public weekend access.

Over 6 weeks, 11,000 university affiliates and community members used the 6,000-square foot rink which had been temporarily constructed on the university's tennis courts.