

Penn Road and Station Road, looking north from the Wynnewood Train Station. Ca. 1915

“AT WYNNEWOOD, ON THE MAIN LINE”

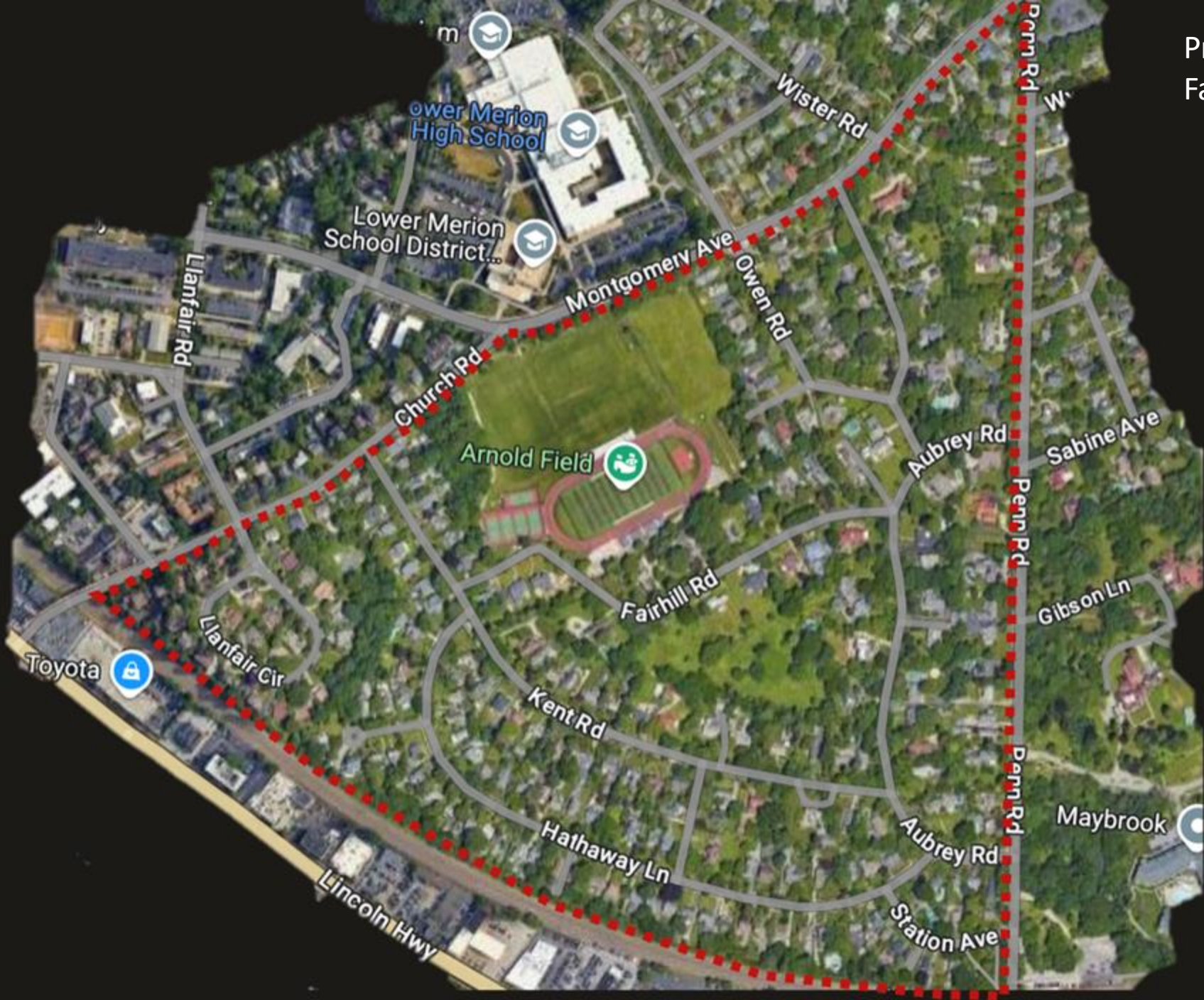
A NEIGHBORHOOD BUILT ON THE HISTORIC TOLAND PROPERTY

October 22, 2024

All Saints Church, Wynnewood



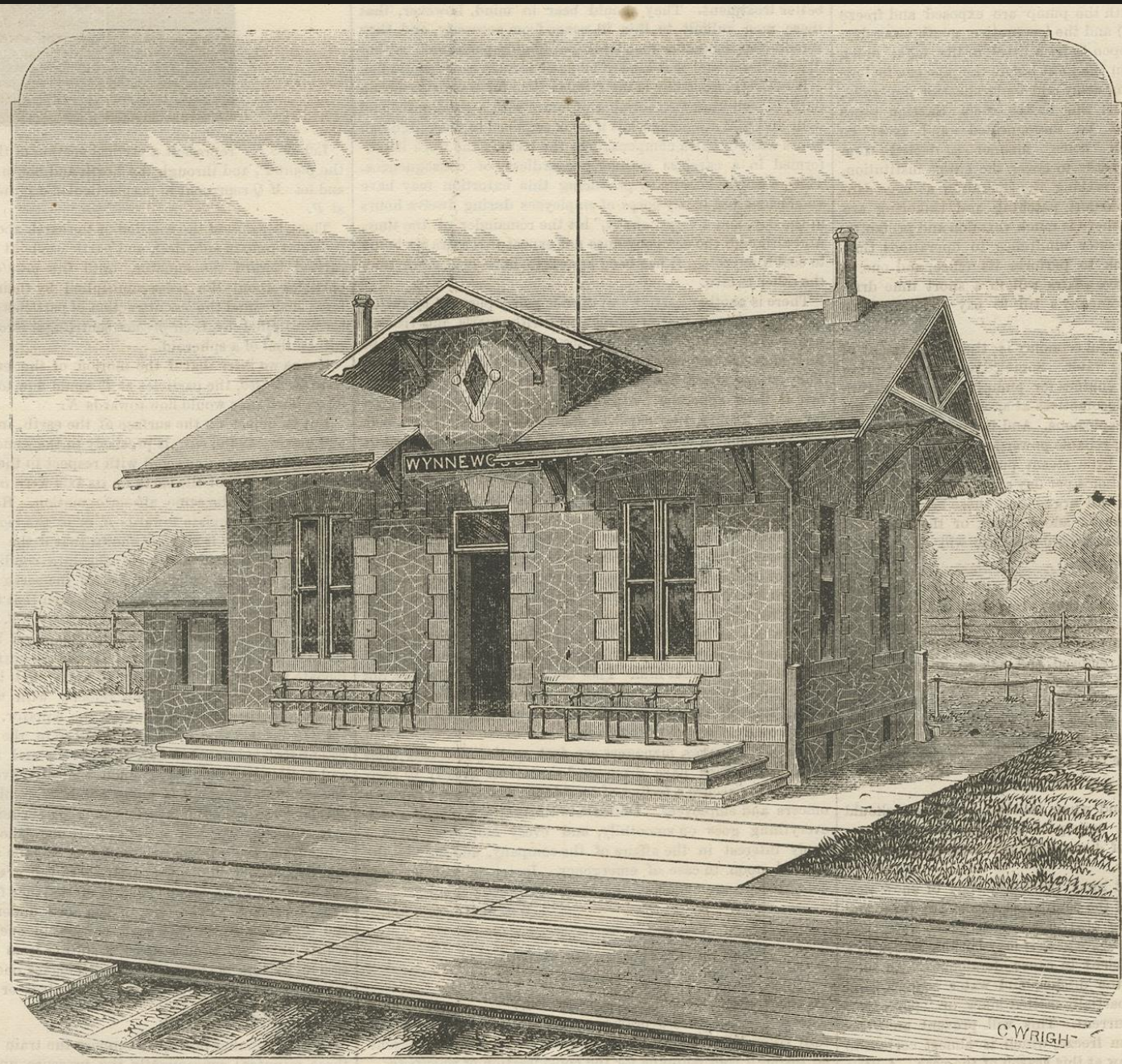
Present-day aerial of Toland Farm neighborhood.



1908 PA Main Line RR atlas.
Shows Toland estate,
"Wynnewood," at center.



“Wynnewood
Train Station,”
Railroad Gazette,
25 January 1873.

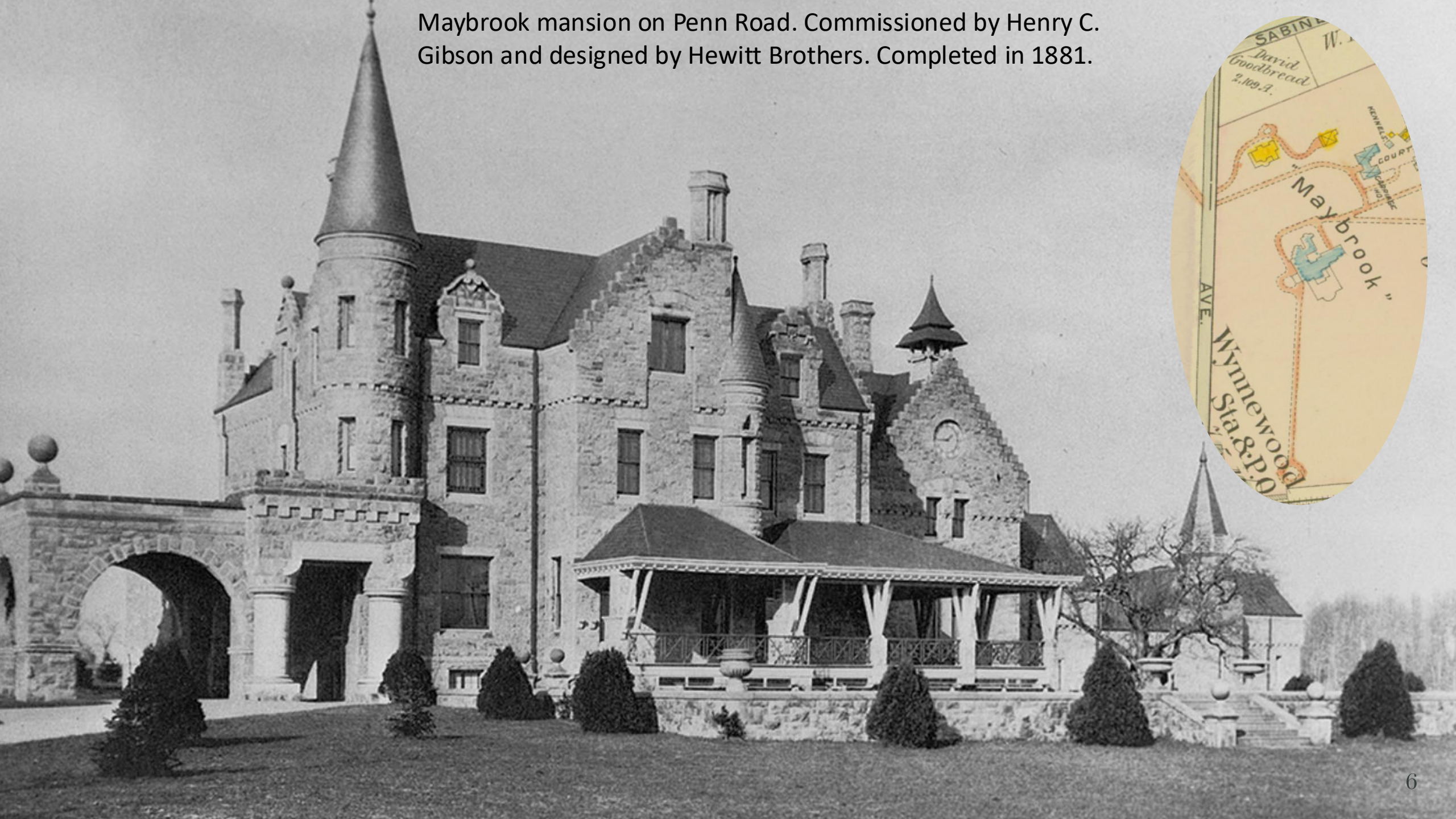


WYNNEWOOD PASSENGER STATION, PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD.

Penn Cottage, 380 E. Montgomery Avenue. The residence still stands. The earliest part of the house, left, dates to ca. 1700.



Maybrook mansion on Penn Road. Commissioned by Henry C. Gibson and designed by Hewitt Brothers. Completed in 1881.



1908 PA Main Line RR atlas. Wynnewood mansion and outbuildings circled.



Wynnewood Mansion, Courtesy of the Lower Merion Historical Society.



Front

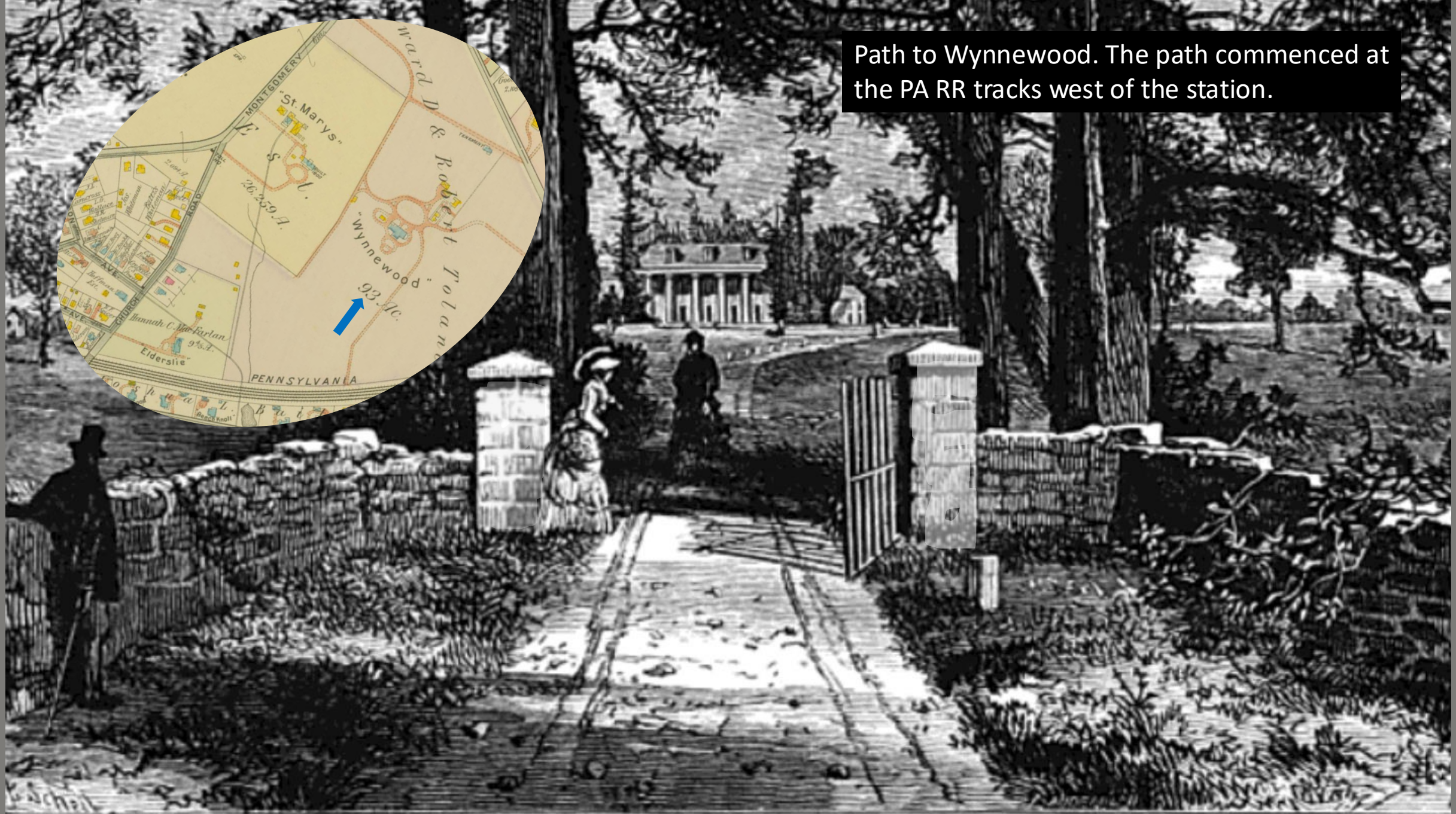


Rear

Location of Wynnewood Mansion (demolished 1939) on a present-day aerial photograph. The mansion was located off Fairhill Road.

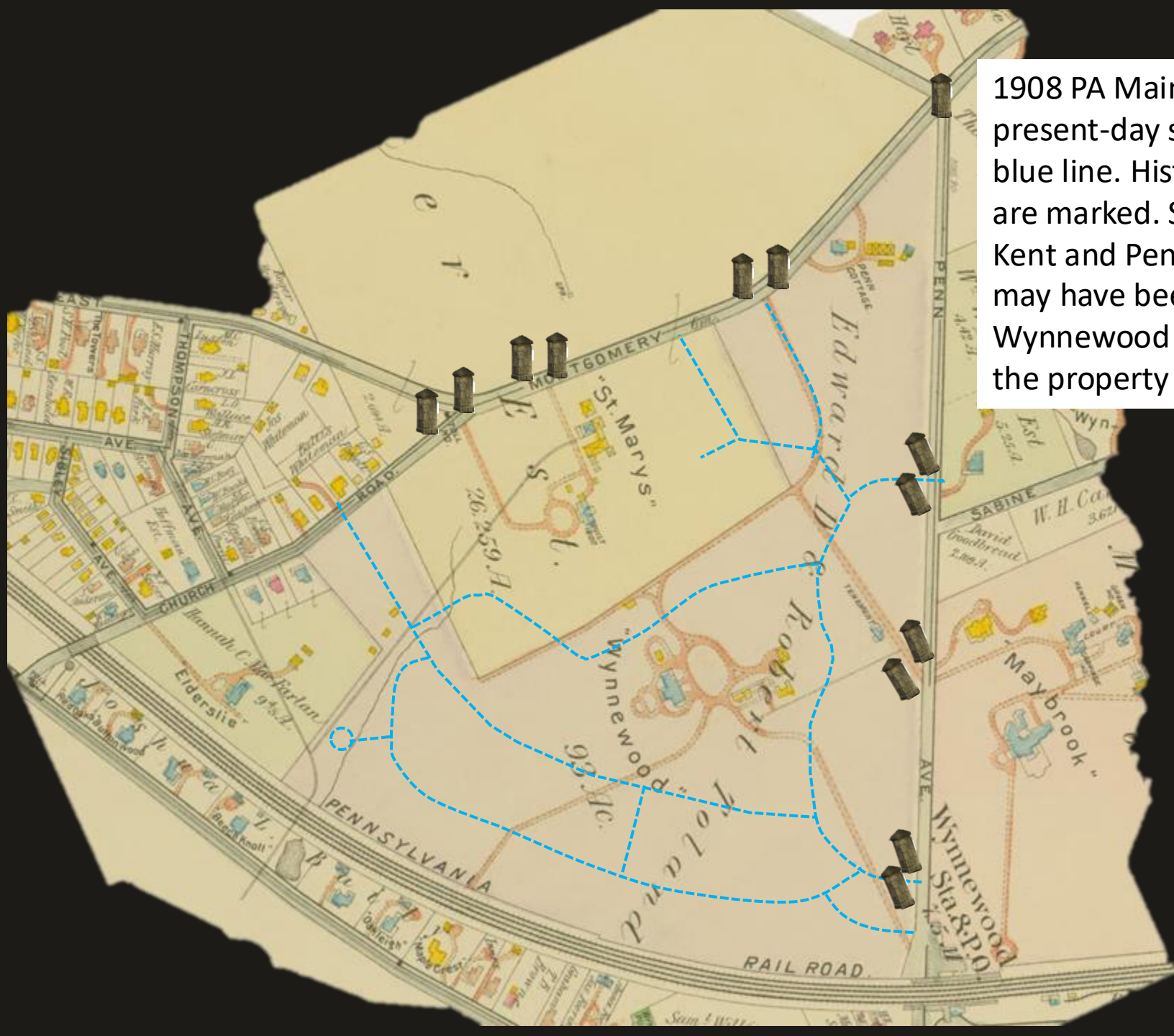


Path to Wynnewood. The path commenced at the PA RR tracks west of the station.



" WYNNEWOOD"—RESIDENCE OF COL. OWEN JONES.

1908



1908 PA Main Line RR atlas with present-day streets overlaid in dashed blue line. Historic entrance pillars are marked. Some, including those at Kent and Penn and Aubrey and Penn may have been created for the Wynnewood estate but relocated after the property was developed.

Aerial photo, May 5, 1923, showing Lower Merion High School and administration building. Historic entrance pillars are circled.



Historic pillars on Montgomery Avenue and Penn Road.
respectively.



1908 PA Main Line RR atlas, showing Wynnewood property one year before residential development began.



IMPROVEMENTS AT WYNNEWOOD

Handsome New Residences
Being Built on the Aubrey
Jones Property.

A BIT OF HISTORY

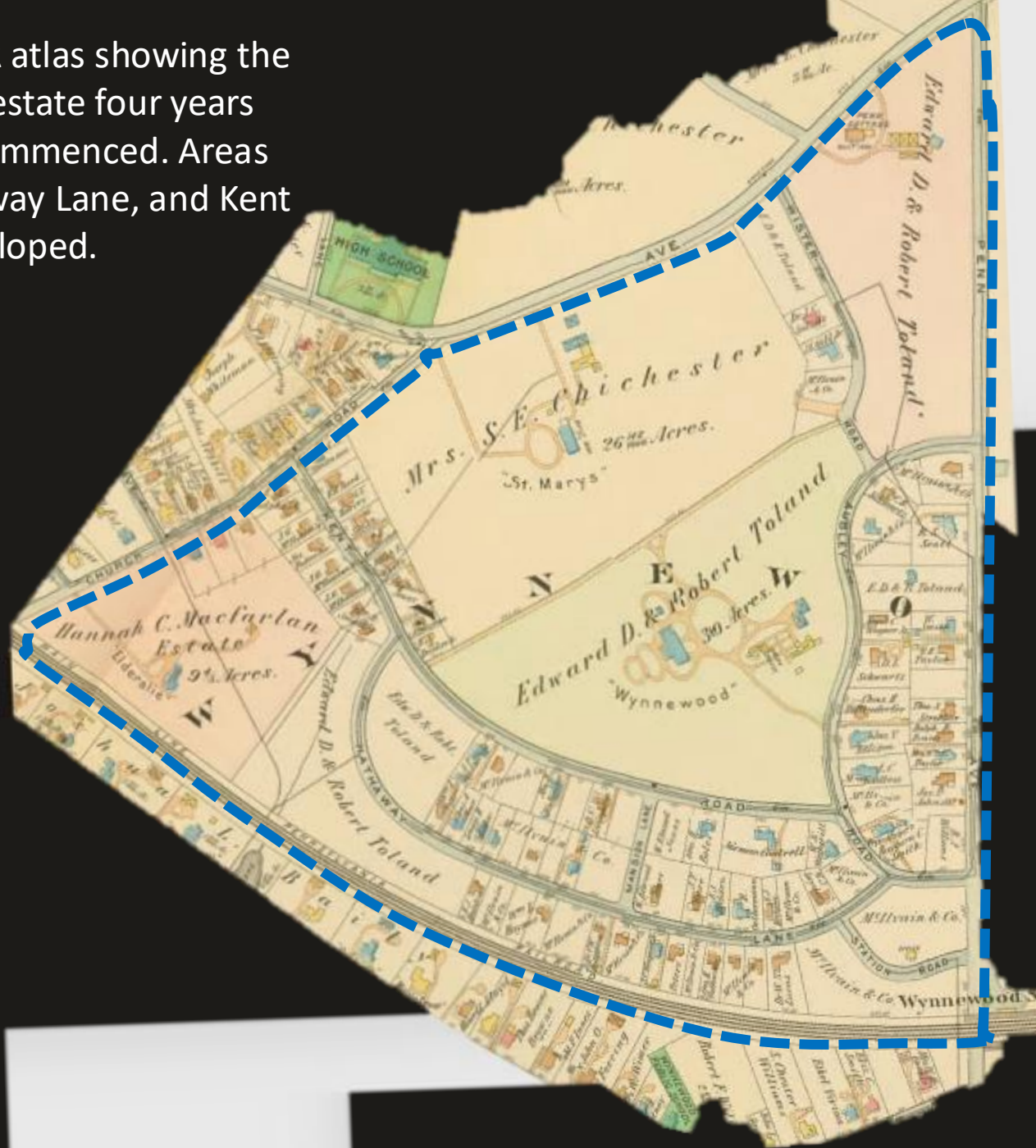
The various distributions among the heirs in all that time, and the usual processes of liquidation by so many of them, by degrees cut the homestead to its present proportions. Of these ninety-five acres the present owners have reserved about thirty for the homestead.

Extensive improvements that will make a great change in the appearance of the country at Wynnewood, but which will not in the least detract from its beauty, are now in progress under the direction of Wendell & Treat, of Wayne. Plans have been completed for the gradual improvement of a portion of the Aubrey Jones estate, several handsome new dwellings being now near completion and several more are soon to be begun.

Of this original tract that was settled in the days of William Penn, and which included thousands of acres, only ninety-five acres remain.

The last of the Jones family was J. Aubrey Jones, who died in 1887. He left the property at Wynnewood to Edward D. Toland and Robert Toland, connections of the family, subject to the life interest of his mother, Mrs. Owen Jones, who died in 1901.

1913 PA Main Line RR atlas showing the Wynnewood/Toland estate four years after development commenced. Areas of Penn Road, Hathaway Lane, and Kent Road have been developed.



1913 Main Line PA RR atlas showing development along Kent Road near Church Road.

The property adjoins the Wister estate, part of which was recently sold by the same brokers to Charles J. McIlvain & Co. Wendell & Treat are developing the whole of this property and have already erected three handsome residences.

Philadelphia Inquirer, 1909

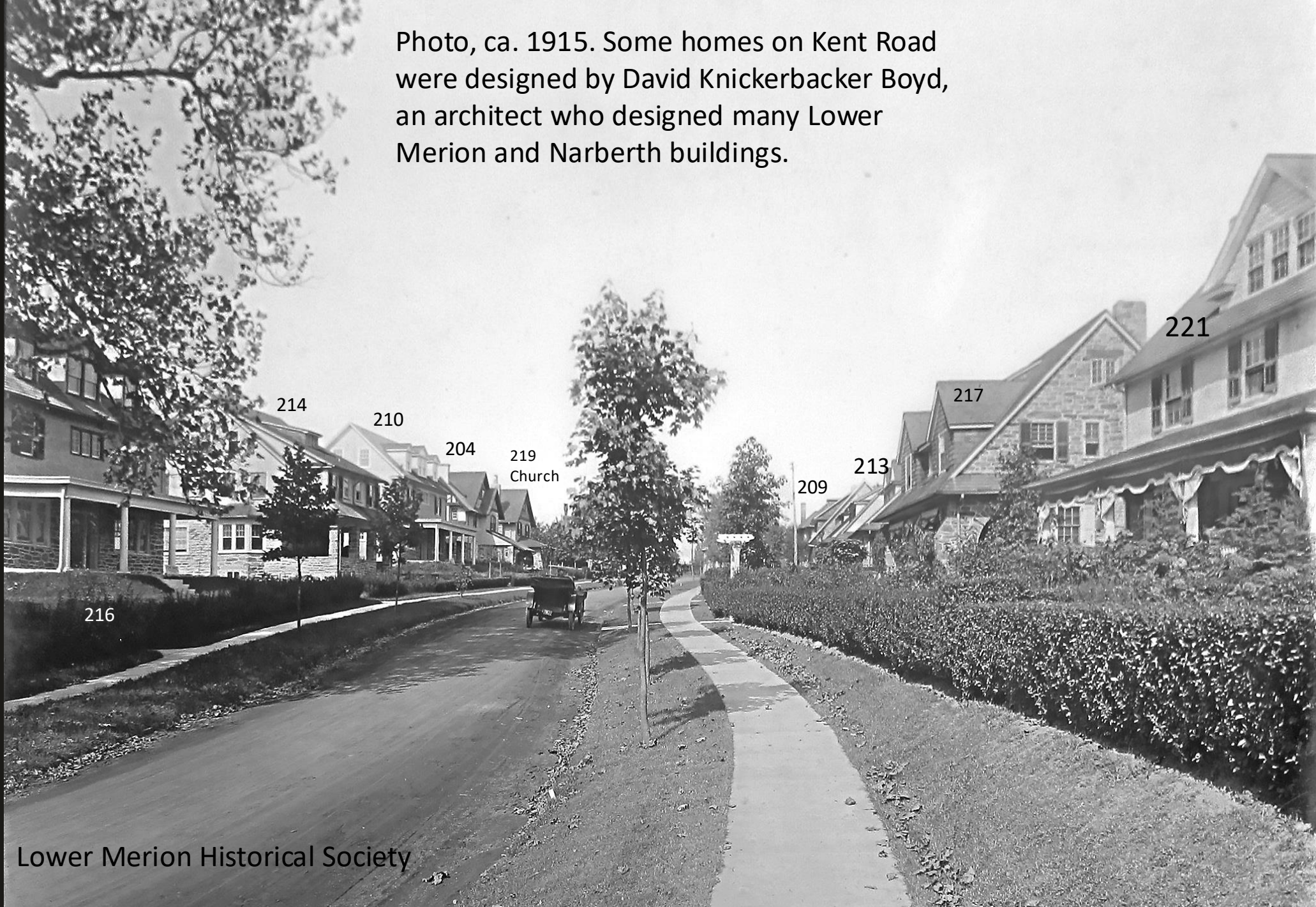
Negotiations have been completed by Hirst & McMullin for the sale of a tract of ground containing three acres, fronting on Church road, Ardmore, which was sold by Edward D. and Robert Toland to Frank H. Mahan for a consideration said to be \$25,000. The ground is part of Wynnewood and will be improved by the erection of a number of handsome residences.

Philadelphia Inquirer, 1909

1913

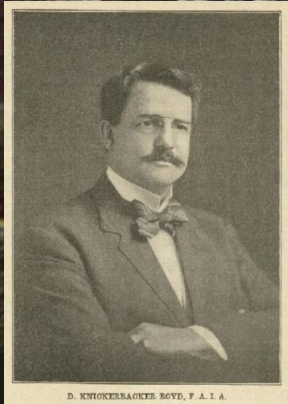


Photo, ca. 1915. Some homes on Kent Road were designed by David Knickerbacker Boyd, an architect who designed many Lower Merion and Narberth buildings.

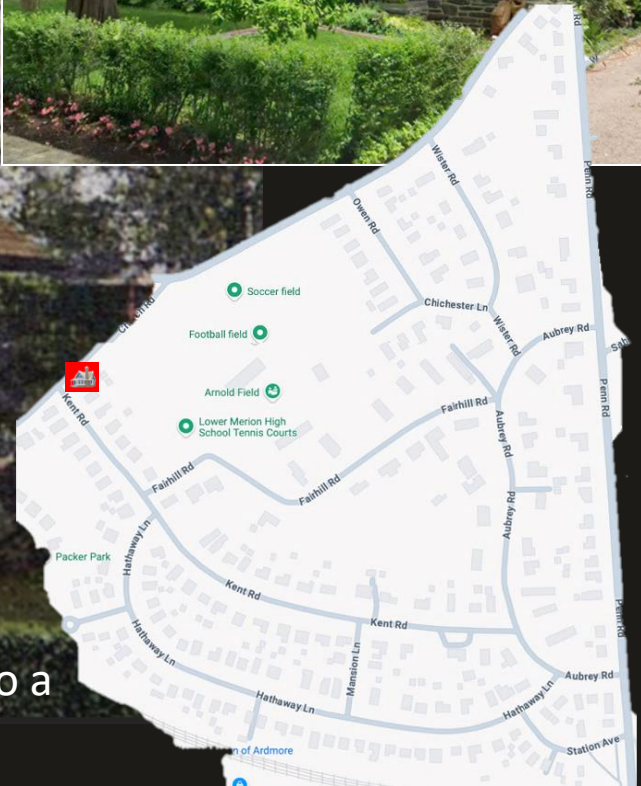


Dr. Snyder Residence, Narberth Avenue, Narberth, Pa.

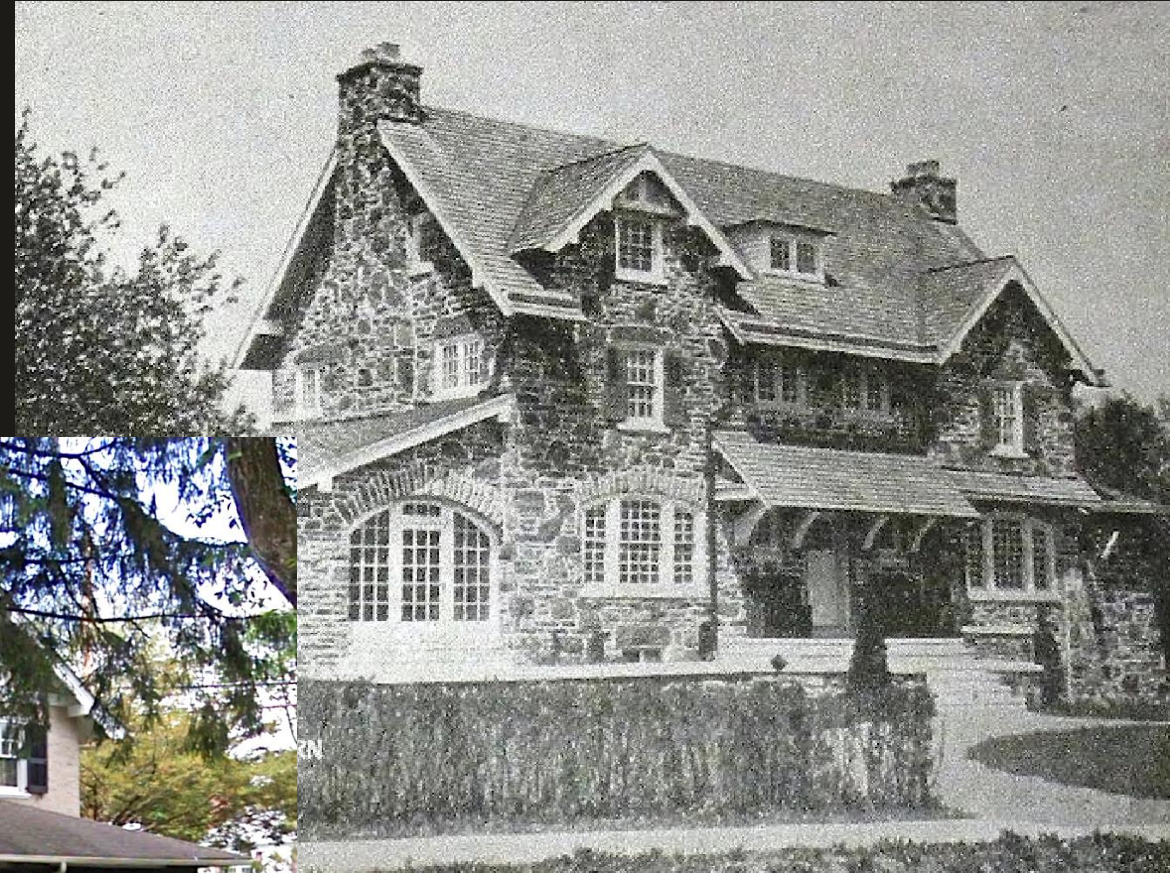
201 Kent Road



201 Kent, shown in the present-day photo at right, is similar to a home in Narberth designed by David Knickerbacker Boyd (demolished during the 1980s).



219 Church Road



Present-day photos of a Knickerbacker Boyd home on Church Road. The black and white photo shows a similar house designed by Boyd.



213 Kent
Road



217 Kent Road

Another likely Knickerbacker Boyd house at 217 Kent Road. For comparison, the black and white photo shows the Boyd house in Narberth.

WYNNEWOOD

An advertisement
for new homes in
Toland Farm.

No. A House

ENGLISH DESIGN
TWO AND ONE-HALF
STORIES.
RED TILE ROOF.
WHITE, PEBBLE-DASHED
WALLS.
FINISHED IN OLD OAK
OF RARE DESIGN, INSIDE
AND OUT.



No. A House

AN UNUSUAL HOUSE
AND DELIGHTFUL
HOME PLACE.
17 ROOMS
AND ALL MODERN
CONVENIENCES.
DESIGNED BY
LAWRENCE VISSCHER
BOYD.



No. 12 House

Built of local stone, for which this district is noted,
producing a pleasing effect, both in color and texture.
Located most attractively, with all the rooms sunny and
bright. - 13 rooms. - Designed by D. Knickerbocker Boyd.



No. 200 House

Colonial design. 14 rooms, large and conveniently
arranged. Built of stone, with marked individuality.
Designed by Miller & Meigs.

We have for sale in moderate sized plots
At Wynnewood, on the Main Line

Seventy acres of ground, beautifully located on a gradual southern slope. Already a large amount of this tract has been sold and thirteen artistic houses, of marked individuality, have been built in 1909 or are in course of construction. Several other large houses for customers will be started this spring. It is an ideal neighborhood and the development is high class. Its proximity to Wynnewood Station and Philadelphia makes it especially desirable. Comfortable arrangements can be made for those desiring to buy ground and build. Now is the time to select your lot if you expect to start building this Spring.
Full information can be obtained by applying to

OFFICE RIGHT AT WYNNEWOOD STATION

WENDELL AND TREAT, Wynnewood, Pa.

Lawrence Visscher Boyd, 1910



Lawrence Visscher Boyd, David's brother, designed this house at 327 Aubrey Road.

The Small Model as an Aid in Building a Home

MADE OF CARDBOARD, SANDPAPER, CELLULOID, SPONGES, BIRD-GRAVEL AND WHAT-NOT—IT SHOWS A HOME-BUILDER WHAT HIS HOME WILL REALLY BE LIKE

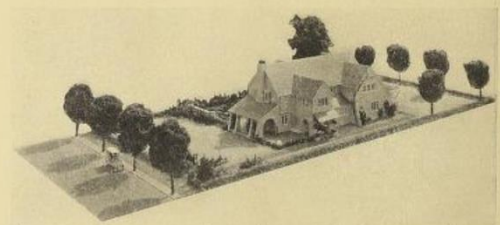
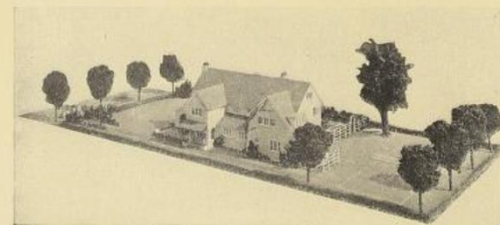
BY LAWRENCE VISSCHER BOYD, A. A. I. A.

WHEN an architect has designed the plans and elevations of his client's house, his troubles have just begun. Nearly every client—or his wife—thinks he or she can read plans perfectly, and after doing so knows exactly how the house will look when completed. But reading plans is not easy. In fact, to the average layman a plan is about as intelligible as Greek or Sanscrit, so it



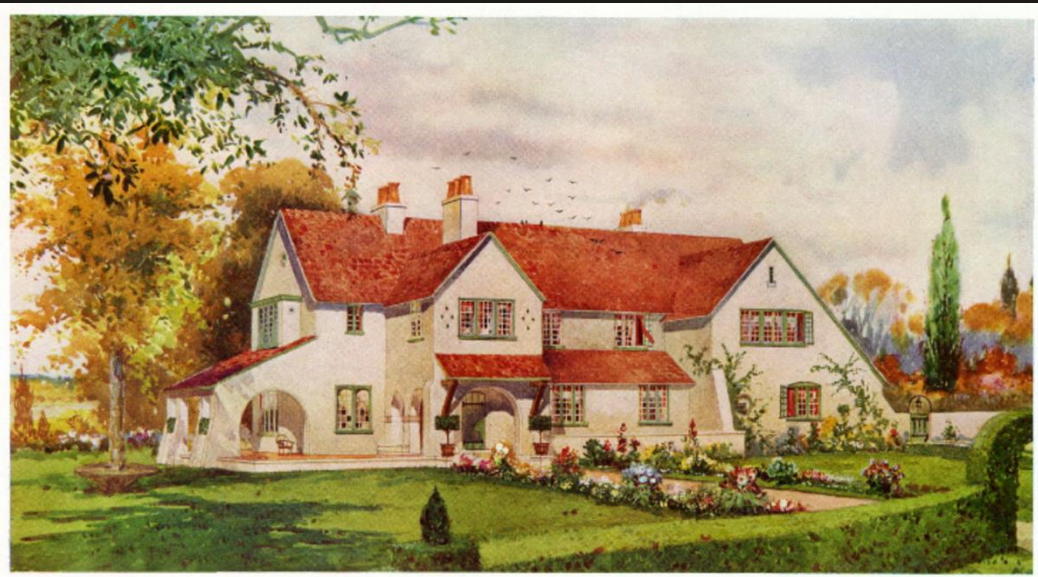
is no wonder that when the work is actually in progress, the owner "didn't know it was going to look like that," or his wife, "cannot understand why there isn't a bay-window in the den instead of a casement." Of course it is the architect's business to please, but it takes the proverbial patience of Job to handle the man who, in the first place, doesn't know exactly what

Rough-cast stucco walls are well represented by sandpaper. The roof is of overlapping layers of thin cardboard



The trees are made of small pieces of sponge, dyed green and placed upon twigs

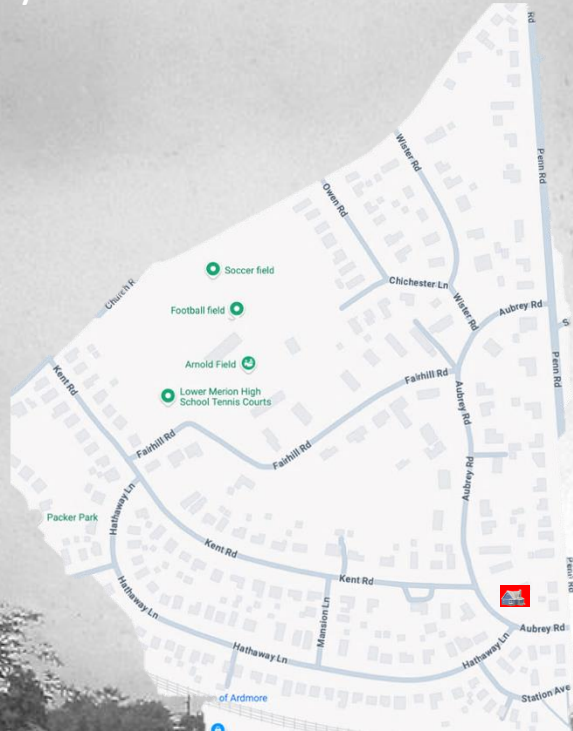
Grass may be sown, ready cut, by scattering it upon cardboard covered with glue



Lawrence Visscher Boyd, Architect, Philadelphia, Pa.

A Country House at Wynnewood, Pa.

A house at 317 Aubrey Road
designed by David
Knickerbocker Boyd.



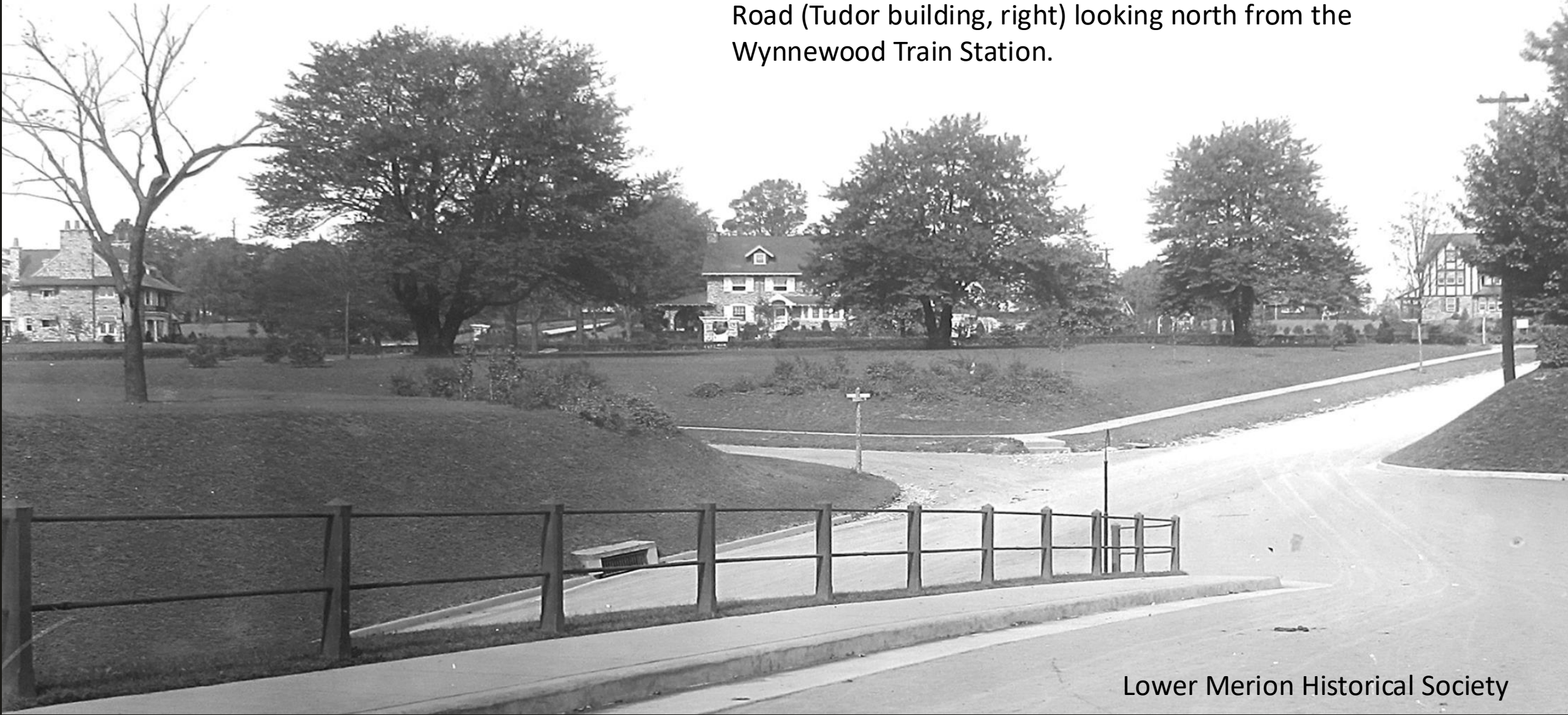


DOORWAY OF A HOUSE AT WYNNEWOOD, PA.
Lawrence V. Boyd, Architect.



The house at 317 Aubrey Road appeared in multiple publications of the day.

317 Aubrey Road (center), 318 Aubrey Road (left) and 322 Penn Road (Tudor building, right) looking north from the Wynnewood Train Station.



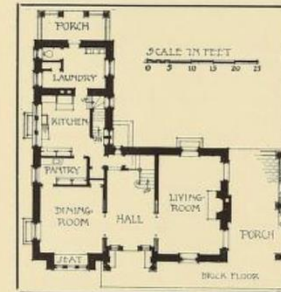
Lower Merion Historical Society



ENTRANCE TO RESIDENCE AT WYNNEWOOD, PA.
MELLOR & MEIGS, Architects, Philadelphia

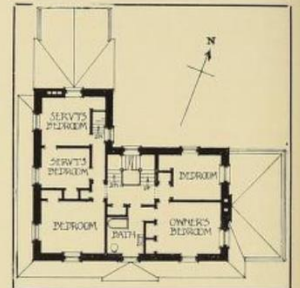


Residents of Germantown and its vicinity are most fortunate in having an attractive local stone, sparkling with mica, which the Philadelphia architects have learned so well how to use with the broad white mortar joints



The first floor plan is of a common type that works out extremely well—central hall, a living-room taking one whole end, and the dining-room opposite, backed by the service wing

On the second floor one door closes off the servants' bedrooms with their back stairway. On the third floor there are two good bedrooms, with closets, a bath and an ample storeroom



A COUNTRY HOUSE AT WYNNEWOOD, PA.

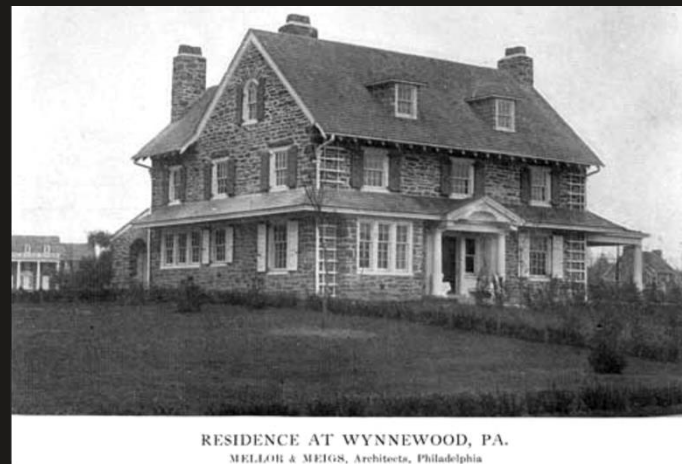
Mellor & Meigs, architects



WALTER MELLOR
Architect



ARTHUR INGERSOLL MEIGS
Architect



RESIDENCE AT WYNNEWOOD, PA.
MELLOR & MEIGS, Architects, Philadelphia



The shingled roof sheltering the first-story windows is a feature commonly called the "Germantown hood"

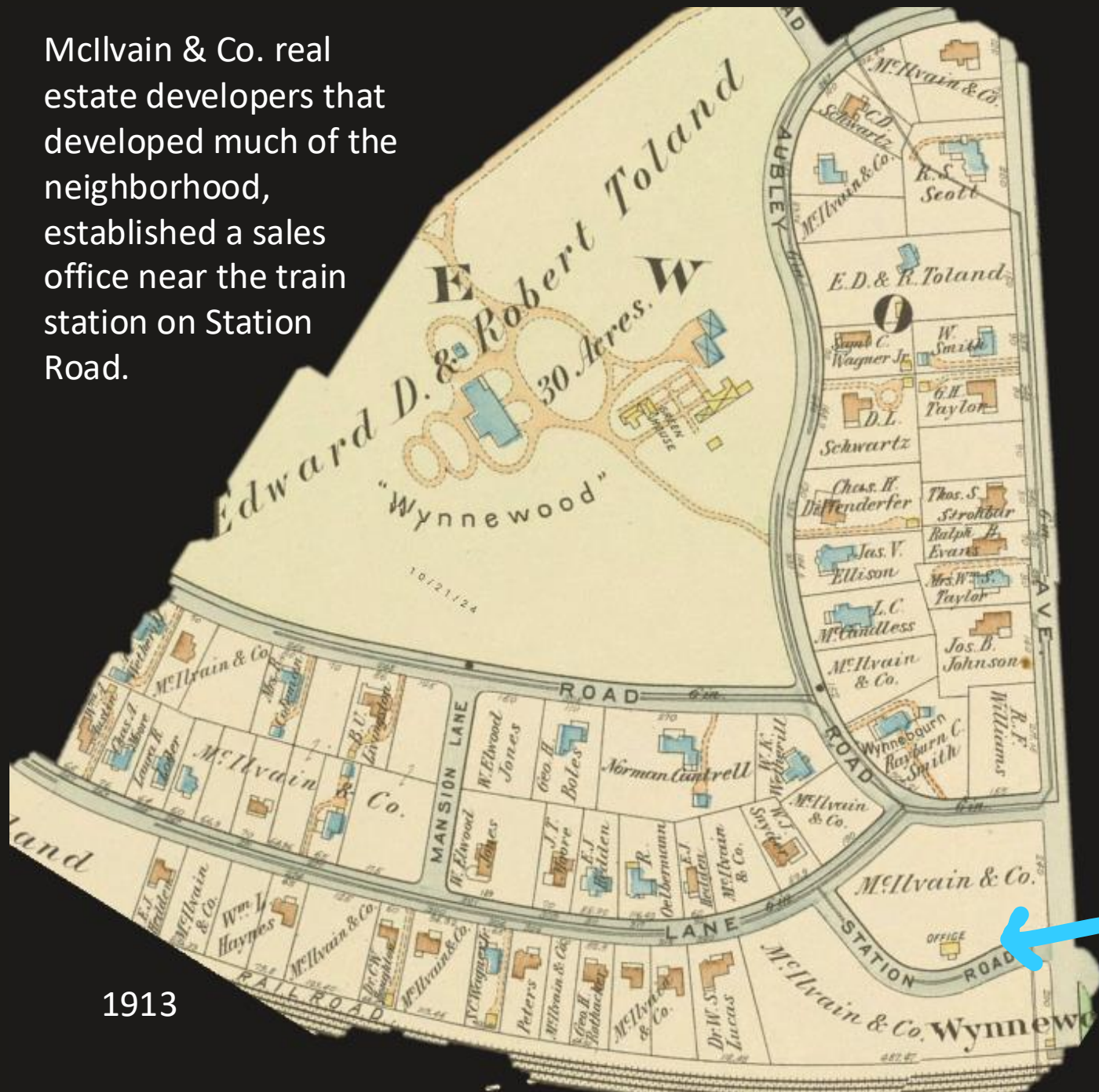


Two built-in seats flank the front door on a brick-paved terrace that is carried around from the porch

(118)

A house on Hathaway Lane designed by the noted architectural firm Mellor & Meigs.

McIlvain & Co. real estate developers that developed much of the neighborhood, established a sales office near the train station on Station Road.



1913

Announcement is made that Charles J. Mellvaine, Jr., & Co. will soon break ground on the thirty-five acres detached from the Toland tract, a desirable location between Wynnewood and Ardmore, and on which there are to be constructed twenty-five houses of the most acceptable design. This operation will adjoin that already well under way on the expansive tract of the Toland estate, and where a number of modern dwellings have been erected near the Wynnewood railway station.

Philadelphia Inquirer, 1910



Charles J. McIlvain, a partner in McIlvain & Co., was also an architect. He and his partner, Charles H. Roberts, operated a firm called McIlvain & Roberts. This firm designed many of the homes in the neighborhood, including the four, above, on the left side of Hathaway Lane. The house on the right, 329 Hathaway Lane, was designed by Lawrence Visscher Boyd.

Lawrence Visscher Boyd

McIlvain and Roberts

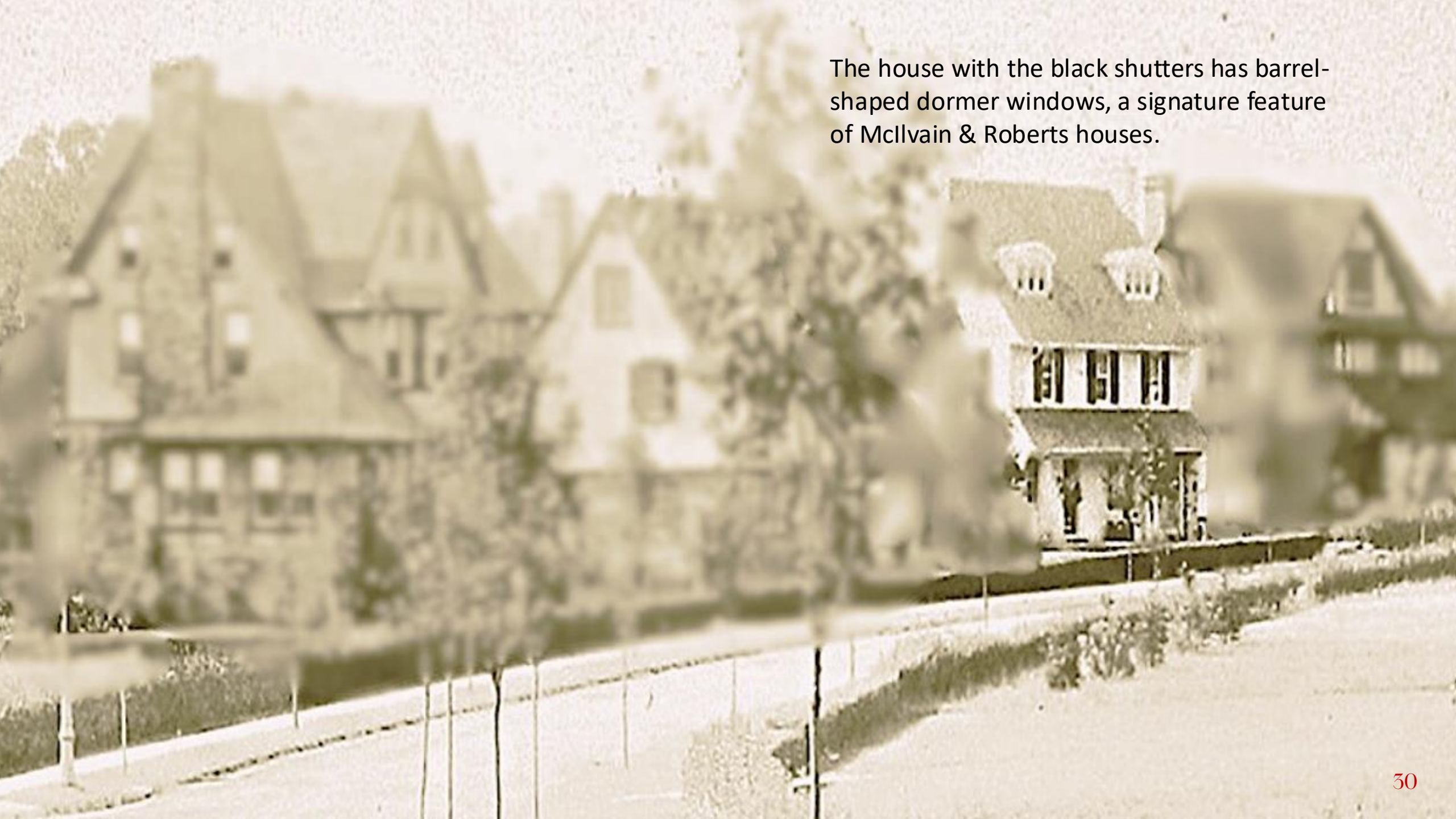
329

320

318

314

312



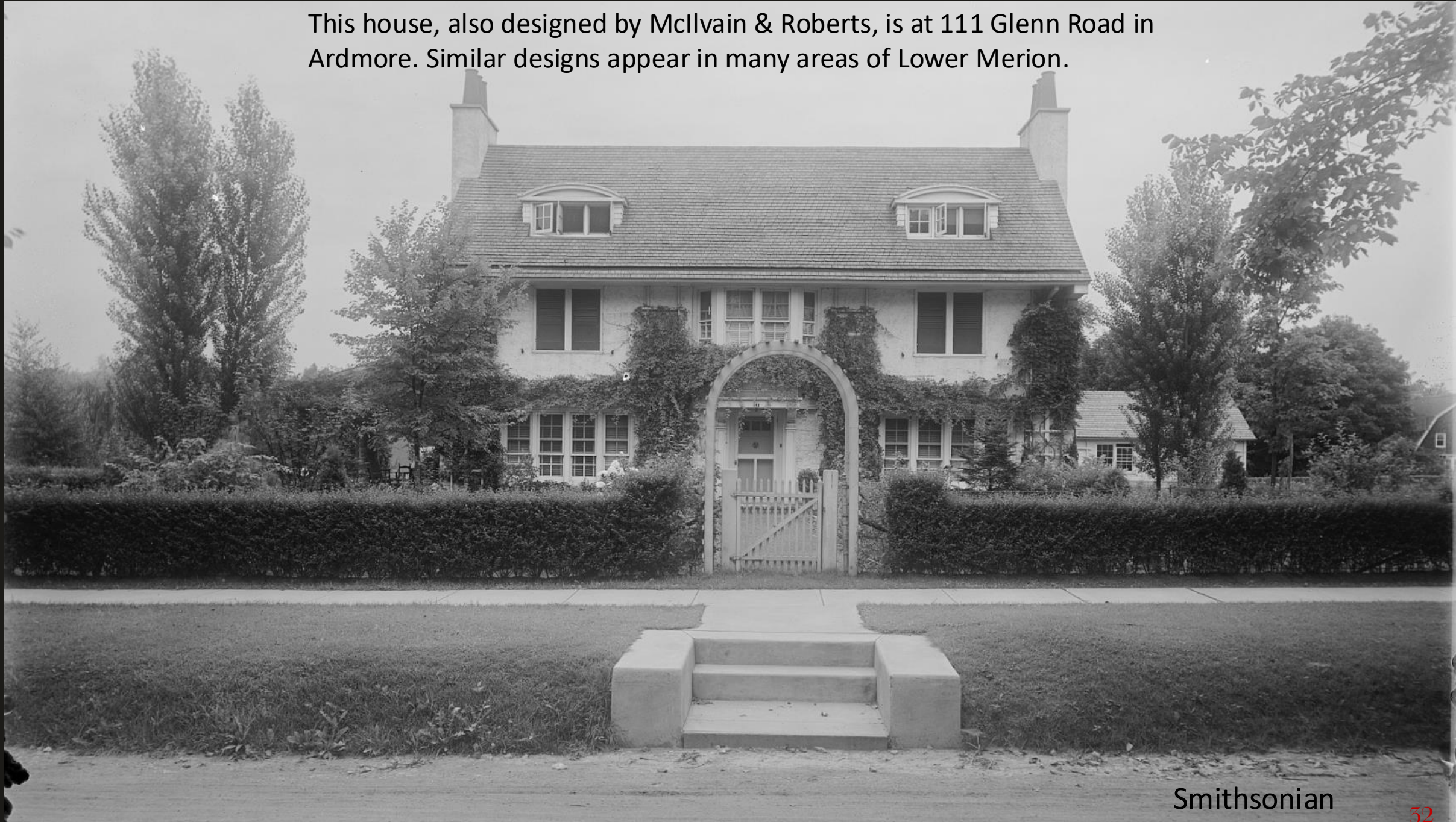
The house with the black shutters has barrel-shaped dormer windows, a signature feature of McIlvain & Roberts houses.



McIlvain & Roberts houses in the neighborhood.



This house, also designed by McIlvain & Roberts, is at 111 Glenn Road in Ardmore. Similar designs appear in many areas of Lower Merion.





This house on Mansion Lane is similar to the house in the previous slide. It retains many original features, including its full-height trellises.

These houses (from left, 258 Kent Road, 266 Kent Road, and 378 Penn Road) were developed by McIlvain & Co. The location of the house in the 1915 advertisement has not been identified.



HAVERFORD

Interesting Houses at Interesting Prices
Prices From \$7500 to \$28,000

The house shown below contains 9 chambers and 5 baths, is located on the north side of Haverford, near club and station and is one of the most desirable properties on the Main Line.

McILVAIN & COMPANY
1518 Land Title Bldg., Phila.



ARDMORE **WYNNEMOOD**

Evening Public Ledger,
20 October 1915

A House at Wynnewood, Pa.

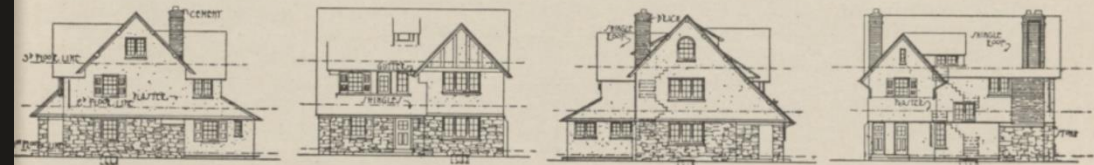


Front view

McIlvain & Roberts, Architects

Building Age, November 1918

A McIlvain & Roberts house at 300
Hathaway Lane.



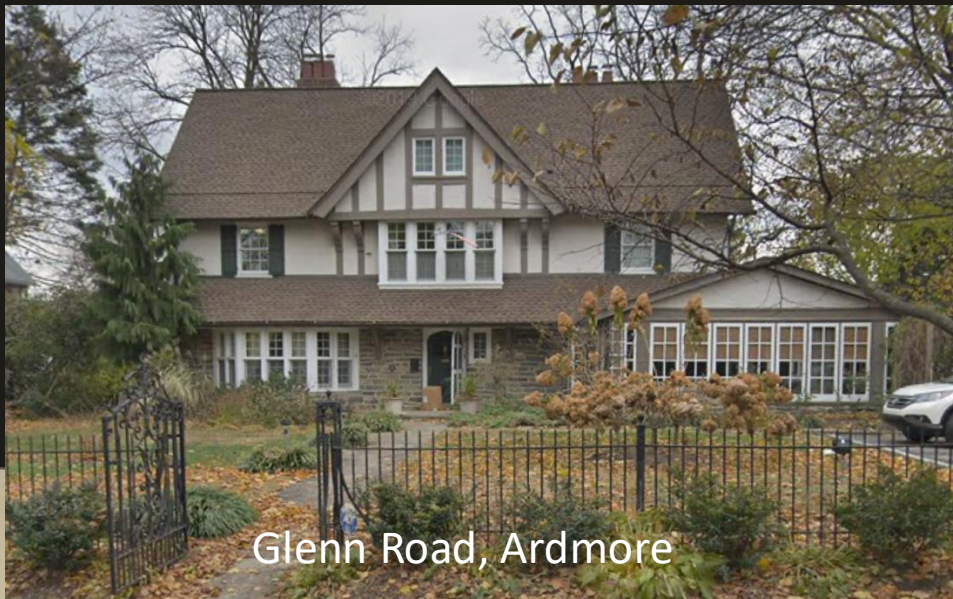
Front, side and rear elevations, scale 1/32" = 1 ft.

A House at Wynnewood, Pa.

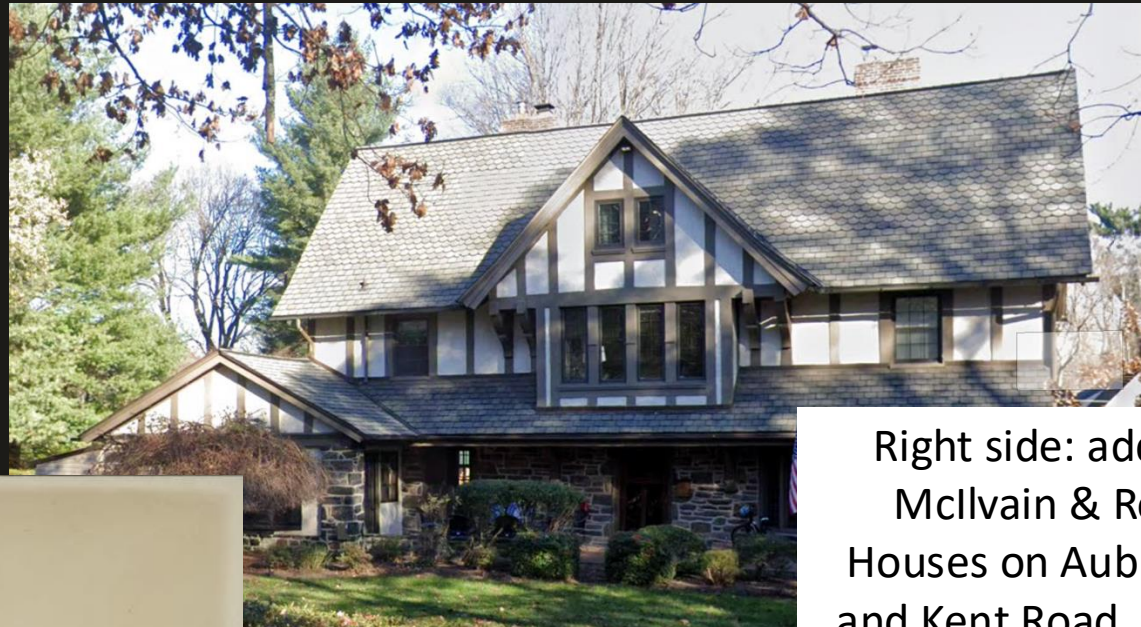


McIlvain & Roberts houses
houses on Hathaway Lane.





Glenn Road, Ardmore



Aubrey Road

Right side: additional Mcllvain & Roberts Houses on Aubrey Road and Kent Road. Left side: houses with identical designs in Ardmore and Cynwyd.



Colwyn Road, Cynwyd

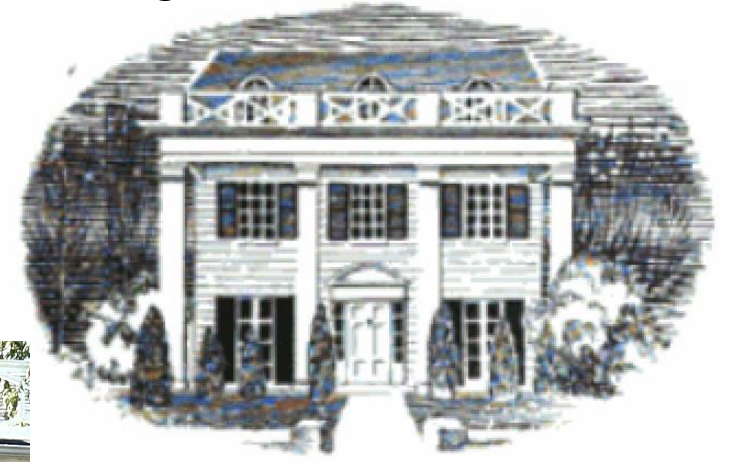


Kent Road

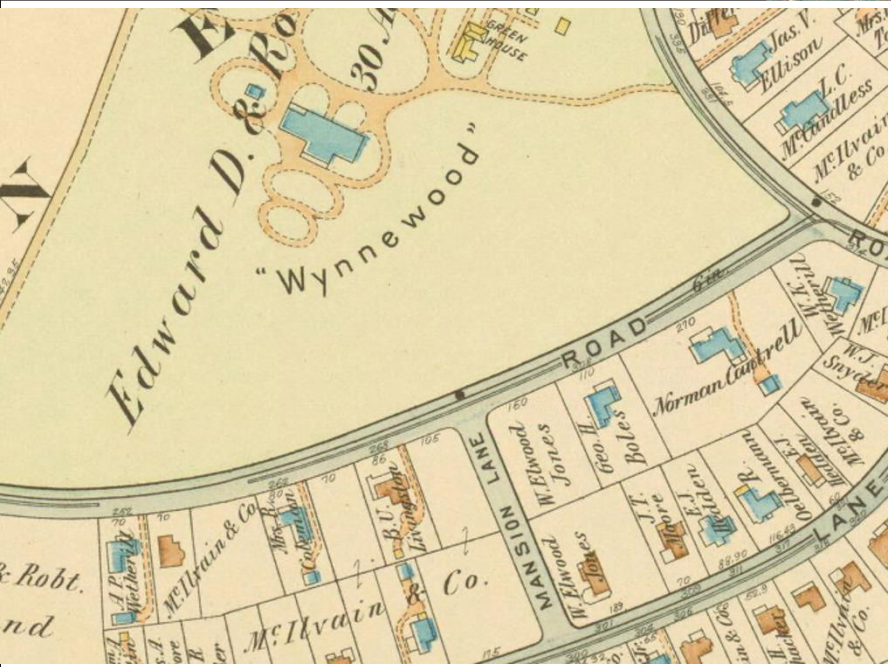


“Little Mount Vernon,” a house designed by McIlvain & Roberts on Mansion Lane. Mansion Lane, itself, was laid out between 1908 and 1913. The name given to this private street likely referenced the Wynnewood mansion to the north. “Little Mount Vernon” may have been designed to honor the old Wynnewood mansion.

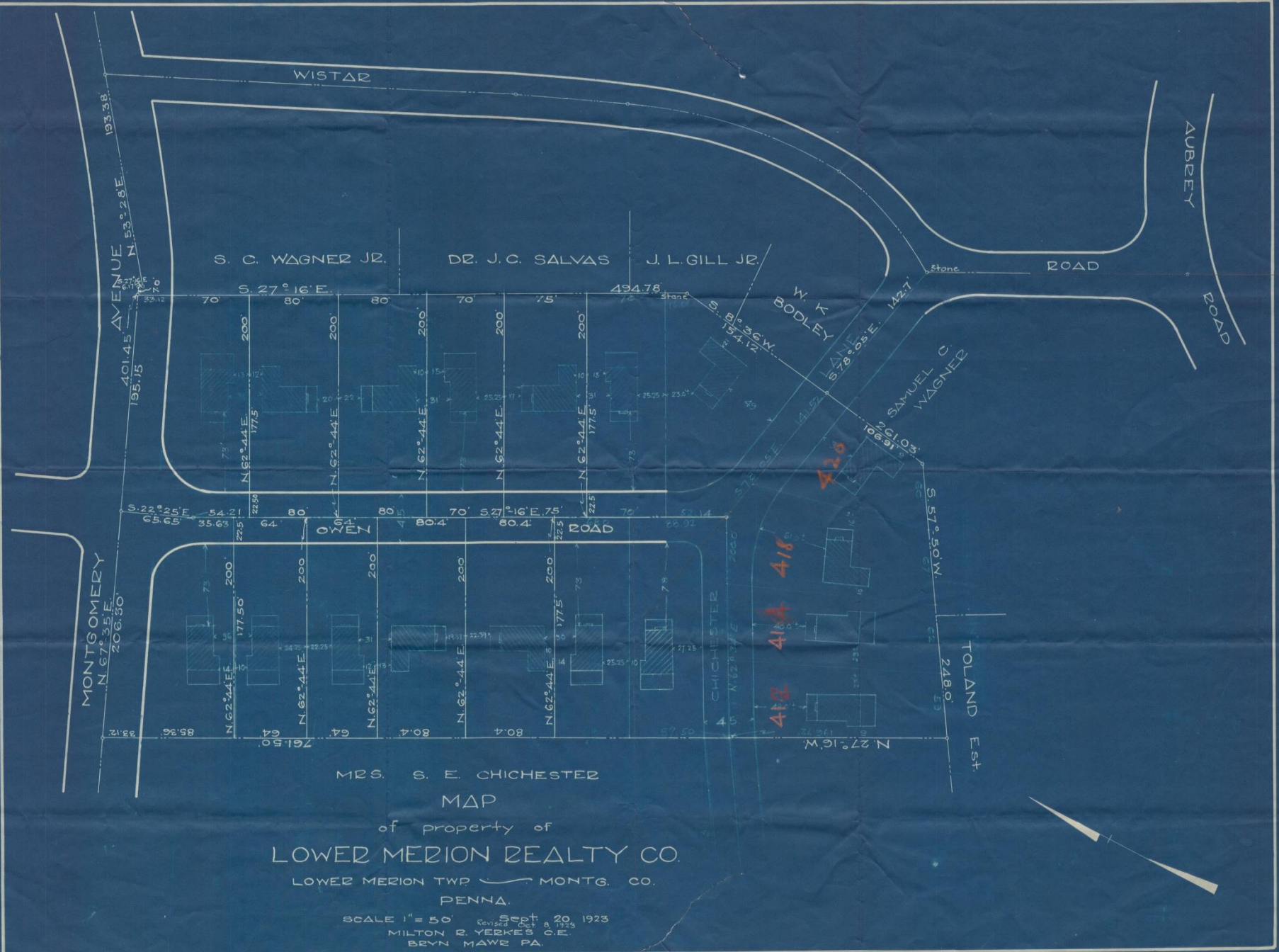
The Printing Art, 1921



*Bobby,
Beatrice & Charles R.
PAUL
send you
GREETINGS
from
"LITTLE MT. VERNON"
Wynnewood
Penna*



McIlvain & Roberts
 designed houses on
 Owen Road for the
 Lower Merion Realty
 Company.



Courtesy Lower Merion
 Building and Planning
 Department

In and Near Philadelphia



The Lower Merion Realty Co., Philadelphia, is building houses of the better kind. The topmost of the views (at the right) on this page shows four houses built in a nine-house development by this company at Ardmore, Pa. A detail of an entrance of one of the group is shown immediately above. Houses in this group were built in 1924 to sell with lot at \$32,000 to \$37,000. They are of concrete



FOUR FINE CONCRETE HOUSES IN ONE ARDMORE GROUP

The Lower Merion Realty Co., has designed and built these beautiful, high class homes at Owen Road and Montgomery Pike in a splendid residential section. They are entirely of concrete masonry, covered with Portland cement stucco of varying texture. They exemplify the architectural possibilities of full concrete construction in a striking manner.



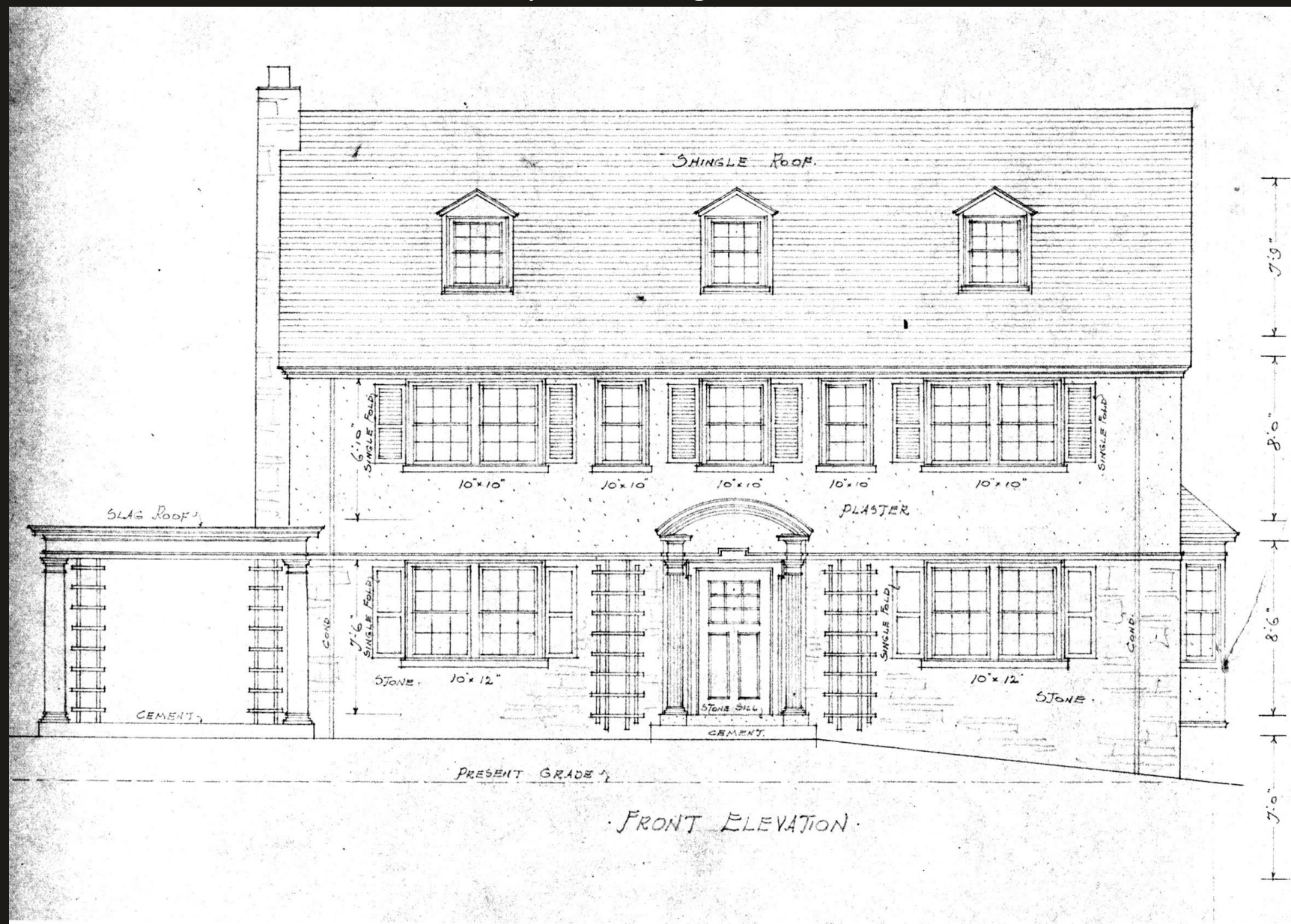
Concrete Magazine, February 1925

Houses on Owen Road appeared in a 1925 issue of *Concrete Magazine*.



Houses on Owen Road in 1925, top right.

During the 1920s, Frank Seeburger, a prolific architect, designed more than a dozen homes in the Toland Farm neighborhood. This design was very typical. It featured a distinctive door surround that included an arched hood, fluted pilasters, and a cutout for a street address. Many of Seeburger's houses, like this one, also featured trellises.



1921

Radnor Historical
Society

Detail of a door surround on a Seeburger-designed house.



Radnor Historical Society



A Seeburger-designed house on Kent Road.



A Seeburger-designed house on Kent Road.



A Seeburger-designed house on Kent Road.



A Seeburger-designed house on Kent Road.



A Seeburger-designed house on Kent Road.



A Seeburger-designed house on Kent Road.



A Seeburger-designed house on Kent Road.



Wallace & Warner, noted local architects, also designed several houses in the neighborhood, including this one at 246 Hathaway Lane.

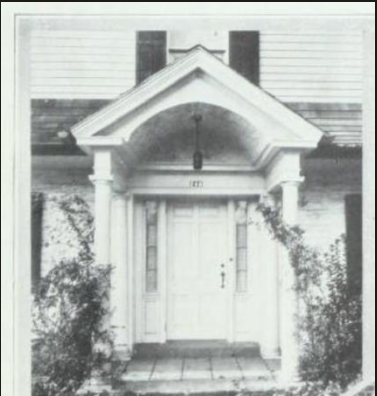
AMERICAN BUILDER (Covers the Entire Building Field)

[March, 1927]



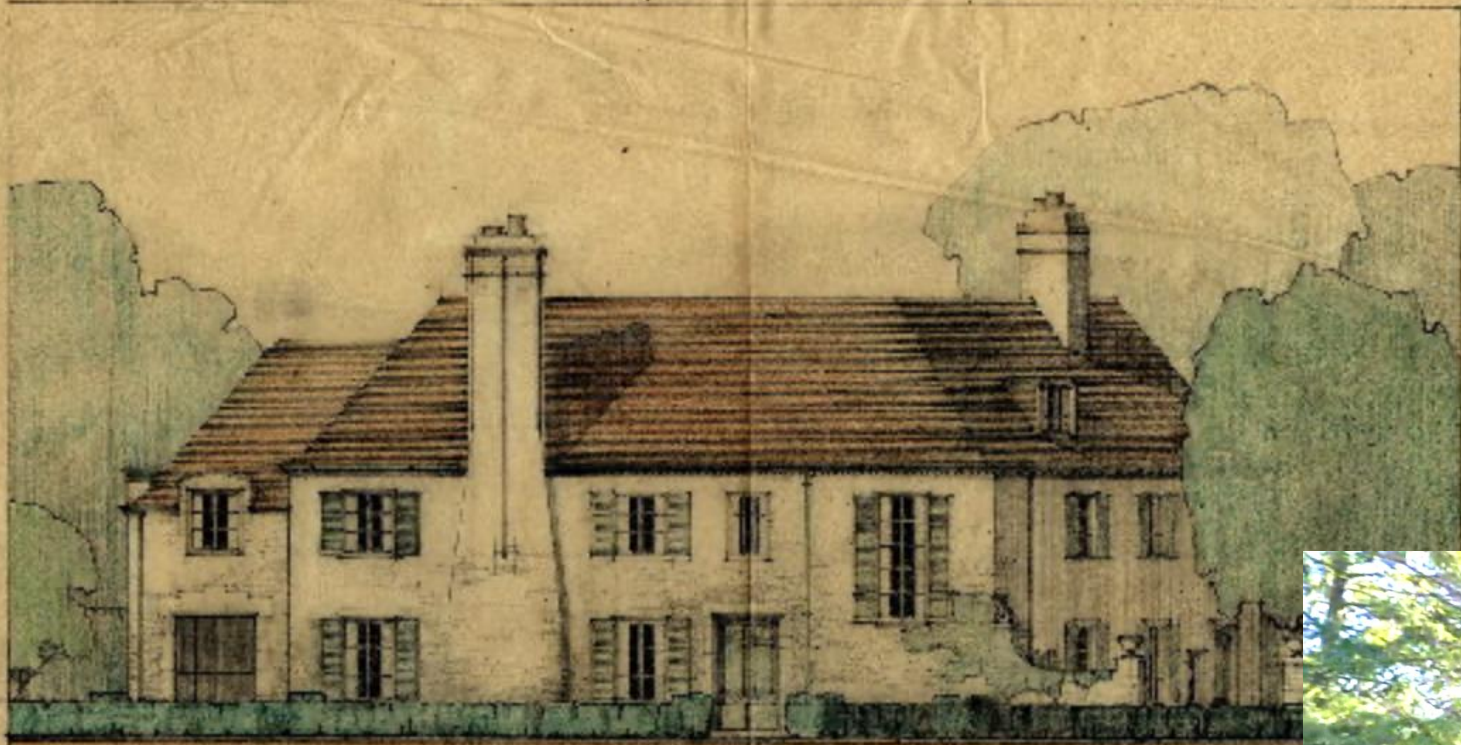
Truly Colonial
must be *built* Colonial

1866
CURTIS
WOODWORK





A Wallace &
Warner house at
331 Hathaway
Lane.



A later commission in the neighborhood designed by the prominent architect Edmund B. Gilchrist. The house is located at 301 Fairhill Road.

