

## **Brentmoor Park-Forest Ridge, Clayton, 1910, Henry Wright, NR**



Brentmoor Park, Brentmoor, and Forest Ridge are three private subdivisions laid out by the same designer. Henry Wright (1878-1936) was, at the time, an aspiring architect and landscape designer who later went on to international fame with his plan for the new town of Radburn, New Jersey. He himself said that the origins of his planning concepts lay in his St. Louis developments. Wright designed all three of his projects to face inward toward their common grounds and away from the noise and congestion of Wydown Boulevard and the trolley line which ran along it. The subdivisions share common characteristics such as limited access from surrounding thoroughfares, curving interior drives, one-and two-acre lots sizes, and large traditionally designed houses. Brentmoor Park is designed around a draw, or small valley, which has its lowest point near the intersection of Big Bend and Wydown. This natural land formation forms the common ground of a rectangular 33.8 acre tract. The land enclosed by Forest Ridge rises to a central plateau with the lots planned around a large circle. Brentmoor has a simple oval plan due to the evenness of its 49.8 acres. The three subdivisions in this district contain forty-seven houses, twenty-one of which were built in the first decade after the sites were opened, with an additional sixteen built before 1930. The fashionable period-style houses which fill all three subdivisions were designed by the best local architects as well as some out of town ones, the most notable being Howard Doren Shaw of Chicago. The large, carefully designed houses are about evenly divided between medieval and Georgian styles. Among the civic leaders who have lived here are J. Lionberger Davis, Stratford Lee Morton, and Morton D. May.

## **Carrswold, Clayton, 1922, Jens Jensen, NR**



Carrswold is a private subdivision in Clayton and consists of twenty-three houses located on thirty-five acres north of Wydown Boulevard near Hanley Road. The subdivision is designed in the shape of a large oval, with a large island on its ester leg

held as common ground. It is the work of Danish-born Chicago landscape architect Jens Jensen, a landscape designer of international acclaim. He was known for his emphasis on the natural character of the site, and the 1921 covenant for his property prohibited fences, which “destroy the peacefulness of the scene,” and also provided that the planting of the front of each lot would be reserved to the trustees. Jensen advocated the use of native Midwestern plants to keep the drive in shadow, to give privacy, and to define the open lawn he envisioned in front of each house. With the maturation of the trees and shrubbery Jensen planted, his ideals were well reflected in present day Carrswold. All but four of the houses in the district were built in the 1920s, and all of the houses were designed in period styles, the most common being the Tudor Revival, with outstanding examples by the architectural firm of Maritz & Young. Carrswold was the home of St. Louis’ most outstanding business leaders of the time, including Albert Keller, Oliver T. Peters, and his sister Ella Lauman, all of whom were also distinguished philanthropists.

### **Concordia Seminary, 801 DeMun, Clayton, 1926, Day & Klauder**



In 1926 this was called the largest and most costly Protestant theological seminary in the nation. The seminary traces its history to 1839 when Germans from Saxony opened the institution in a log cabin in Altenburg, Perry County. The seminary moved to St. Louis in 1849, and in 1921 it acquired the present site on DeMun Avenue. The architect of the fourteen campus buildings, Charles Z. Klauder of Philadelphia, had gained reputation as the foremost practitioner of the Collegiate Gothic style, based on the transitional Gothic-Renaissance architecture at Oxford and Cambridge. Klauder incorporated a variety of stone into Concordia including four shades of red from Boulder, Colorado, gray from St. Genevieve, white from St. Louis and yellow from Wittenberg, Missouri. The 120-foot-high Martin Luther tower, which dominates the enclosed quadrangle, houses 49 bells and was completed in 1966. The chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus, dedicated in 1992, was designed by Ware Associates of Rockford, Illinois.

### **Hanley House, 7600 Westmoreland Ave., Clayton, 1855, NR**



Hanley House is the only rural landmark in the modern city of Clayton, and today is a house museum, revealing the personal story of the Hanley family and providing a link to the past before Clayton emerged as the county seat in 1878. Martin Franklin Hanley came to St. Louis in 1837 from Virginia. He started his life in Missouri at the age of twenty-two, settling on land eight miles west of the riverfront. At first he established himself as a blacksmith, making ploughs, repairing local farmers' tools, and shoeing horses. This prosperous business, however, started to decline due perhaps to the rapid industrialization, which produced cheaper farm implements in cities such as Pittsburgh and floated them west on the rivers.

At this point Hanley began developing a farm on land acquired from his partner as his share from the failing business. Experiencing constant financial difficulties, Hanley was not able to cultivate his land extensively. Part of it he used as a truck garden, part he leased for grazing. In these years of hardship for the growing family, Hanley built the large farmhouse, choosing the highest point of his property. The year 1857, when Hanley's family moved into the house, also marked the watershed between his blacksmithing career and his practice of farming. After the 1870s the family almost completely ceased cultivation. In 1878 Martin and his wife Cyrene donated four acres of land toward the newly created county seat, Clayton. The last occupants of the Hanley House were Martin's wife and his unmarried daughter Nancy Caroline, whose niece sold the house to the city of Clayton in 1968.

For 113 years members of the Hanley family lived in the old farmhouse. It survives in an almost original condition, with no change or loss of furnishings. Like the Bissell House, the Hanley House was cared for and preserved by its original owners. The Hanley house passed through the century in an unaltered state, its sober Greek Revival doorway, porch, and roof gable never touched by an intention to renovate.

**Herf (Whittemore) House, 6440 Forsyth Blvd., Clayton, 1912, James P. Jamieson**



This house is located across from Washington University was built in 1912 and designed by James P. Jamieson, who supervised the construction to the university's earliest Gothic buildings and designed many of the later ones. The house was a product his first independent years as a St. Louis architect. It was built for the daughter of Henry Haarstick, who raised the Mississippi Valley Transportation Company to its height as the country's largest barge line in 1874. Haarstick's son-in-law, who settled in the house with his wife, was also a successful businessman. Oscar Herf, who married Ida Harrstick, founded the Herf and Frerichs Chemical Company in 1886 and expanded the enterprise during World War I to produce ammonia explosives. The Herfs lived at 6440 Forsyth but had no children and eventually left the house to the children of Emma Haarstick and Henry Whittemore. In 1966 Henry Whittemore's widow donated the former Herf residence, which she and her husband had owned, to Washington University. It was used as the Alumni Club, and later, after extensive dining and kitchen facilities were added, it became the Faculty Conference Center.

**Seven Gables Building, 18-206 N. Meramec Ave., Clayton, 1926, Dan H. Mullen, Jr., NR**



Seven Gables is a three-story stucco and brick Tudor Revival building trimmed in Brown, and originally contained 27 apartments, 4 offices and 4 storefronts. It is a combination commercial-residential building that has had no major additions and is essentially intact. It is one of the few remaining buildings that reflect the development of Clayton in the 1920s. The building was developed by Captain Gunther Meier and Norman Comfort, partners in the firm of Hawke and Comfort, with the help of architect

Daniel H. Mullen. After completion Meier and Comfort moved their offices to the building as well as Daniel H. Mullen. The location of the building in the heart of Clayton provided an excellent location for residents, which included Sid Autenrieth, grandson of one of Clayton's first political and civic leaders and Attorney Edward W. Garnholz. The building was renovated in 1986 by the Balke group and is now the location of the Seven Gables Inn.

**Shanley Building, 7800 Maryland Ave., Clayton, 1935, Harrison Armstrong, NR**



Harris Armstrong designed this office building which was commissioned by the orthodontist Dr. Leo M. Shanley. The Shanley building was the first expression of the International style in this part of the country. Its design won Armstrong a silver medal at the Paris Exposition of 1937, and it is still a building admired by many architects. Dr. Shanley had been impressed by the modern house displayed at the Century of Progress Exhibition in Chicago in 1933. While he didn't want to live in such a structure, he saw its functional potential and commissioned Armstrong to design his working space. Inspired by the designs of Le Corbusier and Neutra, Armstrong created a building designed specifically to cope with the problems of the orthodontist. He designed the furniture, lamps, hardware, light fixtures, and fire tools as well as the structure itself. The building is characteristic of the International Style, with its undecorated use of projecting and receding cubical masses and its concrete and glass block. The building was renovated and somewhat altered recently, after it passed from the ownership of Dr. Shanley's son, also an orthodontist. It is listed on the National Register and has received many other honors, but is endangered by the development of downtown Clayton.

**Skinker-Francis House, 6464 Ellenwood, Clayton, 1912, NR**



The Skinker-Francis House is associated with two prestigious St. Louis families. Thomas Keith Skinker (1854-1924) built the house on land purchased by his father Thomas in 1849. Their original family home "Ellenwood" burned down in 1900, and the Skinkers moved to the West End for several years. In 1911 they laid out the subdivision of Skinker Heights, and this house was built the following year. Thomas K. had served as secretary-treasurer of the Forest Park Railway Company, which built the trolley line up Wydown Boulevard, and he was active in promoting the development of the Clayton area. The house was purchased in 1924 by David R. Francis, one of the most distinguished Missourians of his era. Francis served as mayor of St. Louis from 1885 to 1889, governor of Missouri from 1889-1893, Secretary of the Interior from 1896 to 1897, and president of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition Corporation. He was also ambassador to Russia during World War I. After his death the house passed to his son Thomas, who was the head of Francis Perry Ruth Real Estate, and he lived there until his death in 1969.

**Stix International House (Arthur Lambert House), 6470 Forsyth Blvd., Clayton, 1913**



The Stix International House was built by Arthur Lambert, cousin of the aviation pioneer Albert Bond Lambert. After his death in 1919, the house was purchased by Ernest Stix, son and successor of William Stix of Rice, Stix and Company, a dry-goods wholesale business. Stix was among the original incorporators of the Municipal Opera in 1919, and served as a director of Washington University. His wife, Erma Kingsbacher

Stix, was president of the St. Louis Suffrage League, which was instrumental in gaining the vote for women in Missouri and which later became the League of Women Voters. She was also a co-founder of the John Burroughs School. After her death in 1969, the house passed to Washington University and presently serves as the international student center.

**Whittemore (University) House, 6420 Forsyth Blvd., Clayton, 1912,  
James P. Jamieson**



This house, located across from Washington University was built in 1912 and designed by James P. Jamieson, who supervised the construction of the university's earliest Gothic buildings and designed many of the later ones. The house was a product of his first independent years as a St. Louis architect. It was built for the daughter of Henry Haarstick, who raised the Mississippi Valley Transportation Company to its height as the country's largest barge line in 1874. Haarstick's son-in-law, who settled in the house with his wife, was also a successful businessman. Henry Whittemore, who married Emma Haarstick, was the son of the organizer of a cotton processing company, was employed with Herf and Frerichs and later was director of the Levering Investment Company. In 1958 the Whittemore children gave their house to Washington University, which used it as the Chancellor's residence and later as University House, a place for social functions and a guest house for visiting scholars and dignitaries.

**Wydown-Forsyth District, Clayton, 1909-1941, NR**



This district is a residential neighborhood composed of 189 houses, six houses of worship, and one school. It is located just south of Washington University, and it was designed to form a compatible and visually harmonious setting for the institution. The major features of the district are the reverse curve of Wydown Boulevard, the landscaped setbacks of the houses, and the sunken park of Wydown Terrace, which faces the boulevard from the south. The district is characterized by a wealth of period houses constructed primarily between 1909 and 1941. About a third of the houses are Georgian or Colonial Revival style, while another third are half-timbered or stuccoed in Tudor Revival or other English Medieval and Renaissance vernacular styles. Ten houses reflect Spanish sources, thirteen Italian, and four French. High standards for spaciousness and authenticity of design were set early on by James P. Jamieson, the St. Louis representative of the Philadelphia architectural firm of Cope and Stewardson. He designed many of the earlier houses in both the Georgian and Tudor Revival styles.