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Did You Know . . .

Cleveland Park: Images of America

By Paul Kelsey Williams & Kelton C. Higgins
Arcadia Publishing, 128 pp, paper, \$19.99

Reviewed by Judy Hubbard Saul*



photo—courtesy, Library of Congress, Prints & Photographs Division.

Members of the newly formed National Geographic Society pose at Twin Oaks, home of the society's founder and Cleveland Park resident Gardiner Green Hubbard. The house was built in 1888.

This new book, *Images of America: Cleveland Park*, by Paul K. Williams and Kelton C. Higgins, is a must-read for anyone interested in the fascinating local history of the nation's capital. Through mainly archival photographs, the *Images of America* series by the South Carolina publishing company Arcadia, documents what is unique about cities, towns, and neighborhoods across the United States. This is the seventh Washington, DC title in the series for Williams, principal of Kelsey and Associates, an architectural preservation firm, and the first Arcadia title for his collaborator, Higgins.

Williams and Higgins appropriately begin their photographic narrative well before President Grover Cleveland established his summer White House in the area and for whom the neighborhood is named. Included in the book is a drawing of the simple stone farmhouse President Cleveland bought in 1885, and a photograph of the house the following year after he "Victorianized" it. The book begins with photographs from the many grand estates, such as Rosedale, Woodley, and Klingle, which existed in the area in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Also included are photographs of people important to the area and to the country. People



Photo—courtesy, Kelsey & Associates, Inc.

estate. The authors document the early residential development along Connecticut and Wisconsin Avenues and the important commercial development along the same corridors. Also included is a chapter on the many apartment buildings in the area.

What was particularly interesting to me was the inclusion of photographs beyond what we think of as Cleveland Park today: Peirce Mill, the area to the east; the old National Bureau of Standards buildings to the north; the Friendship estate, now McLean Gardens, to the west; and the National Cathedral under construction, to the south. Through historic photographs and informative captions and text, the history of Cleveland Park and its importance to the city and the country unfold in a very readable way. □

*The writer, a 30-year resident of Newark Street in Cleveland Park, serves as the Cleveland Park Historical Society's Outreach Coordinator.



photo—courtesy, Kelsey & Associates, Inc.