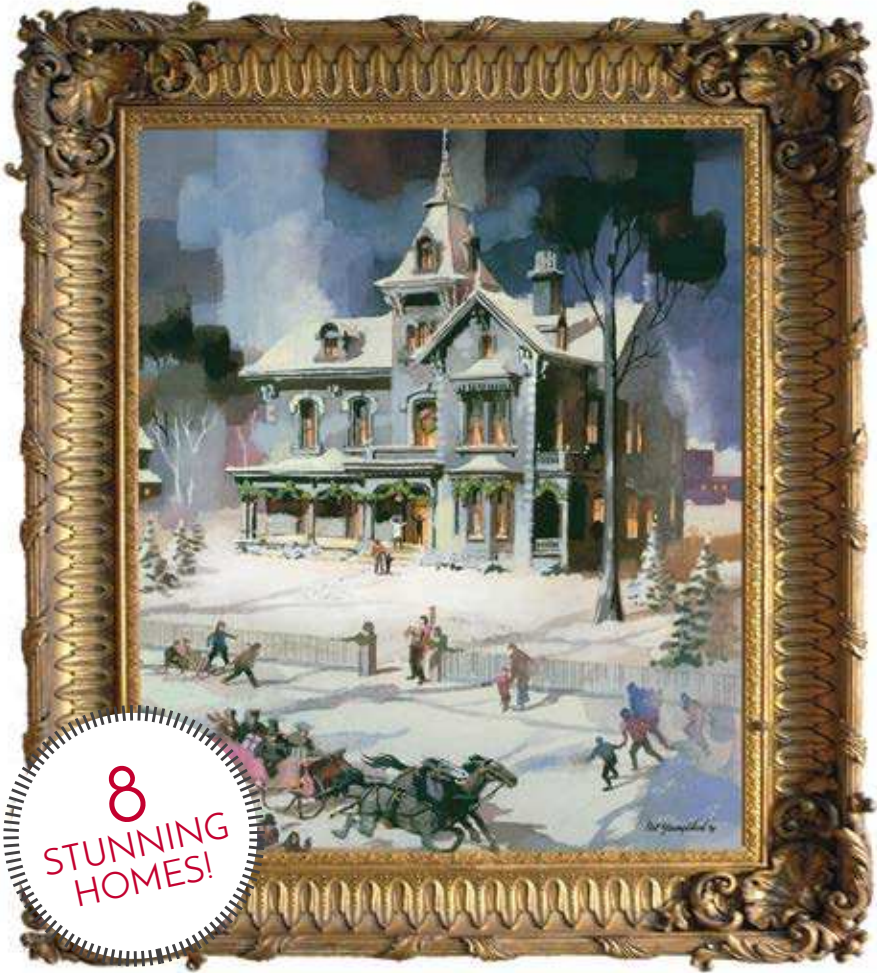


- A BENEFIT FOR THE PITTSBURGH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA -

Symphony Splendor

HOLIDAY HOME TOUR IN HISTORIC VIRGINIA MANOR, MT. LEBANON

Sunday, November 20, 2016 • 11am to 5pm



"Home for the Holidays" by Nat Youngblood

8
STUNNING
HOMES!



PITTSBURGH SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION

The Pittsburgh Symphony Association is proud to present

Symphony Splendor 2016



Exciting Activities and Great People

**Celebrating 77 Years of Supporting
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The Pittsburgh Symphony Association and its affiliates, Pittsburgh Symphony North and Symphony East, are the primary all-volunteer fundraising organizations for the PSO.

Upcoming Events

December 6: Holiday Luncheon at the Duquesne Club

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April 6: Affiliates' Day - watch rehearsal and lunch in Heinz Hall

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PITTSBURGH SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION

-Homes-

A house that is lived in & Where there is love of living.

- THOMAS B. GARMAN, VIRGINIA MANOR ARCHITECT

Welcome to Symphony Splendor 2016, the Pittsburgh Symphony Association's third annual holiday home tour to benefit the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. This year we are celebrating hearth and home in this historic neighborhood of Virginia Manor in Mt. Lebanon.

The magnificent homes on tour today reflect, in their own distinctive ways, the essence of family life in the Manor from the 1930's to the present. As you are dazzled by the lavish decorations and moved by the magnificent, live music, remember that for years Frosty has graced the front lawns of these homes, Santa has come down the chimneys with a bound, holiday tables have been brimming with family favorites, traditional games and time-honored songs have entertained those gathered together, and the Peanuts gang has delighted generations with their cherished finale, "Merry Christmas, Charlie Brown!" Ordinary family life has indeed resounded in these 8 architectural gems for decades, and you can feel it and see it as you move from room to room.

The holiday season is a time to gather loved ones together and to reflect on our rich blessings. One such blessing we hold dear to our hearts is the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. It is our family, and we go home to the Symphony for sustenance and renewal.

We thank you, our patrons, and our gracious and generous homeowners for supporting this day of revelry and good will in honor of our world-class Orchestra. The PSO is our resplendent orchestral jewel, a treasure that makes Pittsburgh the city that it is. Let's keep the music playing!

Living in my memory,

All of the music,

All of the magic,

All of the family home here with me.

- JOHN WILLIAMS AND LESLIE BRICUSSE

Warm Holiday Greetings!

CONNIE PHILLIPS, MILLIE RYAN (FOUNDER) AND CATHY TROMBETTA,
SYMPHONY SPLENDOR CO-CHAIRS



Tour Info & Guidelines

- This program booklet is your ticket and must be presented at the entrance of each home.
- You may tour the homes once in any order.
- Hours of the tour are from 11 AM to 5 PM, with doors opening at 11 AM and closing at 5 PM.
- Molly's Trolleys is available for free rides from home to home. Please consult the centerfold map for the pick-up and drop-off locations.
- There will be continual live musical performances in all homes throughout the hours of the tour.
- Docents are delighted to answer your questions.
- Guests ages 12 and older are welcome with a ticket.
- Umbrellas must be left outside each home.
- Shoe coverings are provided and must be worn in each home.
- The taking of photographs in homes is strictly prohibited.
- Please silence your cell phone.
- Eating, drinking and smoking are not permitted during the tour.
- Restroom facilities are not available in the homes.
- Please stay with your group in each home.
- Kindly refrain from touching objects, furniture and paintings in the homes.
- Please respect owners' privacy as indicated by roped-off areas and closed doors.



Schmertz Mansion

The cover graphic to the Pittsburgh Symphony Splendor home tour program comes from a painting called "Home for the Holidays" by Pittsburgh artist, Nat Youngblood. The painting was completed in December of 1979.

Mr. Youngblood (1916-2009) was the art director for The Pittsburgh Press for over 30 years. Every Sunday he produced a regional painting or an illustration for the cover of The Pittsburgh Press' Roto magazine. These Roto covers were quite popular with Pittsburgh readers due to their historical accuracy or humor.

This painting was Mr. Youngblood's vision of the Schmertz mansion at the holidays. The home was built by Robert C. Schmertz and stood at the corner of Fifth

Avenue and Craig Street, on the opposite side of the street from where PNC now stands.

Mr. Schmertz was an early industrialist who started a glass factory in 1855. His business provided glass for homes and storefronts across the entire United States. In 1860, he invested in an oil refinery. He also had interests in banking and the insurance business.

The Schmertz family was very musical and his home was often the scene of frequent gatherings and festivities especially during the Christmas holidays. In his later years, his delight was in watching the musical development of his twelve children.

The original painting is from the collection of Robert and Cathy Trombetta.



21 Midway Road

This house was a model built in 1926 to showcase James Duff's new development for gracious suburban living. A third-floor closet has 1926 inscribed in the plaster. A 1929 newspaper article announces this "Southern Colonial Model dwelling" reminiscent of Mt. Vernon, open for tours.

Sandstone with red-clay tile roof, this house was most likely designed by Thomas Benner Garman, architect for the Virginia Manor Company. Notice the large two-story formal entry and the extended two-story supported by six colossal columns.

As you tour, appreciate the craftsmanship of the talented "old-world" stonemasons, plasterers, woodworkers, and carpenters, whose hard work built this home without today's modern tools and equipment. New details have been carefully created to blend with the past.

Since 1990, the current owners have

been expanding the house and updating the interior. Notice the addition to the right with bow windows. This eat-in kitchen is where the driveway came around to the back of the house. The family room is where the garage used to be. A covered stone patio extends outdoor living into all seasons.

The newest renovation, finished in time for this tour, is the formal dining room. Look up to see the exquisite hand painted plaster details. When talking about renovations to the house, the owner likes to say he "...gave her an unlimited budget, and she exceeded it."

The family enjoys this house and describes it as a "magical home." As "caretakers," they feel a tremendous community pride and "old-school" responsibility to keep the home in good condition for future generations.



639 Osage Road

Lions and tigers and bears, oh my... and dolls, too! As you tour this delightful cottage, notice the wonderful array of stuffed animals, and dolls. Don't be surprised if you see monkeys looking back at you.

Thomas Benner Garman, architect for the Virginia Manor Company, designed this European style cottage with turret, stonewalls, and arches. It was the second house (not a model) built in the Manor. Garman liked the area and built a home for himself next door at 631 Osage Road. The first house in the Manor was the Cotswold style home across the street at 626 Osage Road.

The exterior of the home is stone from foundation piers of a bridge dismantled in Zanesville, Ohio.

Inside, notice the textured cement walls colored to look like stone, the curved

staircase with original wrought iron banister in the turret, and the original Pella windows with interior pull-down copper screens.

Watch your step as you enter the living room running the full depth of the house. The first owner gave piano lessons here. A massive stone fireplace, one of three in the house, is the central feature amidst the owner's collections. The 1795 map of Pittsburgh was found crinkled up in the basement and lovingly restored.

This original three bedroom one bath cottage has been sensitively expanded over the years adding the morning room, the breakfast room, the den with powder room, a master en suite and walk-in closet, 40-foot Gunnite pool, and the detached two and one-half story garage in the style of the front porch.



736 Valleyview Road

Thomas Garman, architect for the Virginia Manor Company, believed houses, whether large or small, were works of art and that architects must combine the practical with the beautiful. This house showcases that belief in its details inside and out.

Welcome to this home designed in 1937 by James Hoover in the English Tudor style for Edward and Martha Mesta (look for the stained glass image of a ship and the Mesta monogram in the fifteen-panel oak door). English Tudor features of this sandstone house include the steeply pitched roof of Vermont slate, the three front facing gables, the thin red-clay tile lintels, the heavy stone entry surround, and the leaded diamond-paned casement windows.

The interior of this home continues in the English Tudor style, with Tudor arches (a flattened version of the Gothic arch),

plaster walls, random-width pegged oak floors, and the original marble entry floor. A feature often found in homes designed by Garman is the wrought-iron stair railing.

Take time to look at the stained glass details in the diamond-paned windows. See if you can find Christopher Columbus with a globe, Shakespeare at Stratford-upon-Avon, and a garden scene complete with a temple and fountain.

This house is a contributing structure in the Mt. Lebanon National Register Historic District and is identified as such by the medallion at the front entrance.

The current owners are the seventh and have lived here since 2001. Decorations are by Robert Sendall and Cheryl Schilling from "All in Good Taste," and the lamp post and outside pots are by Josephine Nellis.



741 Valleyview Road

This house was designed in 1937 by Thomas Garman, architect for the Virginia Manor Company. Garman favored designs in the English Cotswold, English Tudor and Colonial Revival styles and he listed these styles in the design guidelines for homes to be built in Virginia Manor.

This home is an excellent example of the English Tudor Revival style. Notice the roof made of Vermont Slate, half timbering with herringbone pattern brick infill, parapet front-facing gables, and leaded diamond-paned casement windows typical of this style.

The interior of the home continues in the Tudor style with doorways designed in a flattened Gothic arch, plaster walls, and pegged oak floors. The floors are original, as are the built-in cabinets, and the chandelier.

A few changes have been made to this home through the years. The hand-carved limestone fireplace surround in the living room was designed by the current owners to match the Tudor arch entry to this room. The walls have been re-plastered and crown molding added. Originally, the kitchen had a separate eating area that led to a porch. And, as sometimes found in houses of the 1930's, the plans for this home included a maid's room complete with bathroom. The bathroom is still there, but the maid's room has been converted into a den.

The current owners have lived here since 2014 and are fortunate to have the original Thomas Benner Garman blueprints for this home and some historic photographs of the house.



820 Valleyview Road

Thomas Garman, architect for the Virginia Manor Company, designed this family-oriented home in the English Tudor style in 1940. Notice the sandstone and bluish-green painted exterior. Additions were made to the home in 1952, 1990, and 2009.

The second owner of the home was Walter C. Shaw, Jr., who purchased the house in 1944 and raised five children here. He owned the G.C. Murphy Company, headquartered in McKeesport, PA.

The current owners purchased the home in 2009. They are the third owners of this home and enjoy life here with their five children. They took a year to renovate the house, as they wanted to live in an historic home but with all the modern conveniences. They have succeeded.

The exterior front entry way has been

totally redone with new Spanish cedar tapered heavy timbered pillars designed to fit the style of the house.

Inside this home, the alcove for the piano used to be a porch. The eat-in kitchen, dining room and family room are one open space making this a great place for entertaining family and friends. Look for the custom designed “candlelier” over the dining room table and the matte finish golden limestone countertops.

Outside, the backyard continues the family feel with a stone hearth and patio. Notice the large stone lintel over the fireplace. It alone weighs over 1,000 pounds! A planned future addition is a pergola to shade the patio for summer enjoyment.

Holiday decorations throughout the home are by Suzie Cable of Cable Design Group.



830 Valleyview Road

Situated on a large double lot, Thomas Garman, architect for the Virginia Manor Company, designed this house in 1938-1940. The sandstone walls with red mortar, half timbering, leaded diamond-paned windows, and the red clay tile roof are details of the English Tudor style.

Notice the finial rooster weathervane that tops the gable and the long hedgerow with stone pillar entrance to the backyard. The four gas lamps were added in 2008.

Inside, the house is an eclectic mix of styles with Colonial wainscoting and turned spindles on the stair railing and English stained glass medieval crests in the 15-panel front door in the two-story entry. The living room has plaster crown molding and has been returned to its original Colonial blue color. In the dining room, look up to see the Adams-style rosette on

the ceiling. The original chandelier now adorns the piano and this chandelier was moved here after the renovations next door (820 Valleyview) left it without a home. The English country house family room is the showstopper of this home as the roof has literally been raised giving this once one-story room a soaring cathedral ceiling with heavy timber King-post trusses. Don't miss the red Lacanche stove from France in the kitchen.

As you tour, take time to appreciate the artwork and furnishings throughout this graciously appointed home. The current owners have lived in Virginia Manor since 1999, and in this home since 2006. They appreciate the architectural styles that Garman designed or approved that make this historic neighborhood so special.



861 Valleyview Road

This house was designed in the Colonial Revival Style in 1946. Notice the exterior walls faced in sandstone, the gabled slate roof, and the chamfered-post porch with the crisscross patterned railing typical of the Colonial revival style. The walkway leading to the house is sandstone and the six-panel front door has its original hardware.

It is not known who the architect was, but Thomas Garman would have approved the plans for this house. The Caste Brothers, Inc. purchased the land from the Virginia Manor Company in 1939 and built this house in 1946 before it was sold to Thomas and Edna Roop in 1947.

The original plan for the house is mostly intact though there have been a few improvements over the years. A back porch was enclosed to create the den,

and a major addition was built onto the back of the house in 2005. This addition increased the size of the kitchen (which originally stopped at the pillars). The new kitchen flows into the family room. Notice the fireplace with wooden mantle and sandstone surround, and the cathedral ceiling with exposed triangular wooden collar ties. This room leads out onto a deck overlooking the backyard. A new garage was built under this addition.

As you walk through this home, notice the built-in bookcases and paneled wainscoting in the living room, the chandelier in the dining room, and the careful choice of colors throughout.

The current owners are the sixth to own this gracious home and purchased it in 1999.



929 Osage Road

The land for this house was purchased by the Virginia Manor Company in 1940 and sold to William and Helen Ragner in 1949. This mid-century ranch style home was built in 1950. The current family has lived here since 2007.

Virginia Manor was developed in sections, and this house is in one of the last expansions of the Manor. From the front, this one-story ranch style house appears to be hugging the ground. The architectural details flow in horizontal lines, while, in fact, the back yard is a story lower placing the garage under the house and giving the interior high ceilings and great views down into the private back yard. Noteworthy is the Pennsylvania blue stone multi-level terrace and patio and custom designed wrought iron railings.

The interior of the house has been

changed to the current open floor plan. Walls were removed to combine the living room, dining room, and kitchen. Fireplaces were repositioned and added. Modern wooden pocket doors separate the family room from the open living space. Notice the custom cherry European-style entertainment and storage armoire. The dining/office area just off the kitchen provides a cozy retreat from the openness of the common living area.

As you tour this home, notice the artwork, many pieces by local artists, others from Europe and Russia. The beautiful woodworking in the living room, family room, and kitchen adds warmth and charm to this mid-century marvel. All custom woodworking was designed and crafted by Rich Gardner from Gardner Woodworking in Murrysville.



WE APPLAUD THE
PITTSBURGH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
 FOR PRESENTING HISTORIC CONCERTS IN
 HISTORIC SPACES SINCE 1896.

“THROUGH THE PLACE WE RENEW
 THE SPIRIT OF THE PEOPLE.
 HISTORIC PRESERVATION CAN BE THE
 UNDERLYING BASIS OF COMMUNITY
 RENEWAL, HUMAN RENEWAL, AND
 ECONOMIC RENEWAL.”

—Arthur P. Ziegler, Jr., President and Co-founder, PHLF



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736 Valleyview Rd

21 Midway Rd

830 Valleyview Rd

929 Osage Rd

741 Valleyview Rd

639 Osage Rd

861 Valleyview Rd

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SCRUBGRASS ROAD

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MANOR PLACE

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VALLEYVIEW ROAD

EDGEVILLE LN

PARKER DR

MIDWAY RD

VALLEYVIEW ROAD

GLEN RIDGE LANE

OLD HICKORY ROAD

COCHRAN ROAD

Tour Checklist

Homes may be toured in any order.

21 Midway Road

820 Valleyview Road

639 Osage Road

830 Valleyview Road

741 Valleyview Road

861 Valleyview Road

736 Valleyview Road

929 Osage Road

Jefferson Middle School

21 MOFFETT STREET
PITTSBURGH, PA 15243



MOFFETT STREET

PINOAK ROAD

SHEET OAK RD

BOWER HILL ROAD

Acknowledgments

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS WHO OFFERED THEIR SUPPORT TO THIS EVENT.

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Susan Givelber, Takako Kiyota-Petek,
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Peg Patterson, George Spencer,
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Polly Swanson

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Jack Kurutz, piano
Billie Jo Miller, piano
Lenny Young, oboe

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Lorna McGhee, flute
Sung-Im Kim, piano

Piano Trio:

Katie Russell, clarinet
Alex Moskowitz, cello
Kabir Mantha, piano

Violin Duo:

Taya Ricker, Joshua Huang

Flute Trio:

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Jana Lange

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Continued on the following pages.

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Vince Carrola, classical guitar
Ben Meyer, classical guitar
Tobias Chisel, violin
Gabi Faetini, violin
Zvonimir Nagy, piano

Trombone Quartet:

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Aaron Pisula, Robert Schmalz

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Emily Hayes, harp
Jackson Hunt, piano
Igor Kraevsky, piano
Davis Morgenstern, piano
Wilberta Pickett, piano
Madeline Potter, harp
Rick Purcell, piano
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Michael Lipman, Cello
Jim Rodgers, Bassoon

Bassoon/Piano Duo:

Jim Rodgers, Bassoon
Francesca Tortorello,* Piano

Cello Duos:

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& Michael DeBruyn
Bronwyn Banerdt & Charlie Powers

Flute duo:

Rhian Kenny, Jennifer Steele

Flute/Piano Duo:

Lorna McGhee, flute
Sung-Im Kim,* piano

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Dennis O'Boyle, violin
Meng Wang, viola
David Premo, cello

Violin/Piano Duo:

Jennifer Orchard, violin
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Piano Duo:

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Harp Solo:

Julia Scott

Flute Duo:

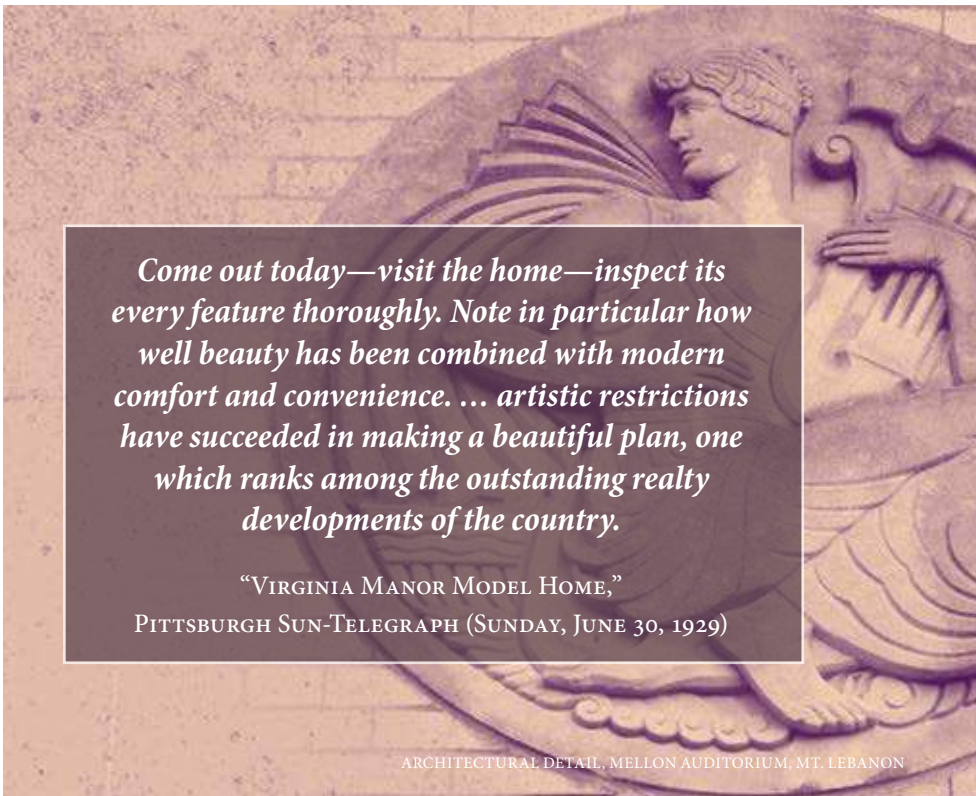
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Thespina Christulides,
Anna Ciaccio, Melissa Tickner,
Tim Rosko, Carmen LoPresti,
Ben Filippone

Continued on the following pages.



Come out today—visit the home—inspect its every feature thoroughly. Note in particular how well beauty has been combined with modern comfort and convenience. ... artistic restrictions have succeeded in making a beautiful plan, one which ranks among the outstanding realty developments of the country.

“VIRGINIA MANOR MODEL HOME,”

PITTSBURGH SUN-TELEGRAPH (SUNDAY, JUNE 30, 1929)

ARCHITECTURAL DETAIL, MELLON AUDITORIUM, MT. LEBANON

WELCOME TO MT. LEBANON, an area of just over six square miles that is home to about 33,000 people, including many patrons and musicians of the Pittsburgh Symphony. Mt. Lebanon was incorporated in 1912, although the name “Mt. Lebanon” was first officially used in 1855 when a post office opened on Washington Road to serve the farming community of less than 100 people. The name seemed appropriate because two Cedar of Lebanon trees had been growing for several years in front of Reverend Joseph Clokey’s house on Bower Hill Road. (Around 1850, he had traveled to the mountainous area in the Near East where the famous cedar trees grew natively and had returned with two saplings.)

With the opening of the Liberty Tunnels in 1924 and the Liberty Bridge in 1928, Mt. Lebanon was transformed from a rural community to one of the nation’s premier automobile suburbs. Over time, developers created distinctive apartment buildings and quality houses in many different historic revival styles on streets that fol-

lowed the contours of the land. An impressive Art Deco Municipal Building, several commercial districts, parks, places of worship, ten public schools, and recreational and cultural facilities contributed to the progressive, attractive, prosperous community. In 2010, the editors of *Travel + Leisure* named Mt. Lebanon among the 25 “coolest suburbs worth a visit.”

A portion of Mt. Lebanon was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2014 because of the quality and integrity of its historic architecture. Included in the Historic District is most of Virginia Manor, a gracious, well-maintained neighborhood developed in phases beginning in 1926—and a desirable tour destination on June 30, 1929, as reported above. Today, eight exquisitely decorated Virginia Manor homes are open for your enjoyment.

Louise King Sturgess

A RESIDENT OF MT. LEBANON, MRS. STURGESS IS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE PITTSBURGH HISTORY & LANDMARKS FOUNDATION.

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