

# The *Buhl Parkway*

Explore the grand boulevard entrance into Buhl Farm Park and its neighborhood with this tour of homes from 1924 through the late 1940s.



## 1 132 Buhl Boulevard

This Tudor Revival home was built circa 1928 for Edward C. and Minnie Porter who owned Porter's Filling Station and Tire Shop. The Buhl Parkway Subdivision was started in the 1920s with homes still being built into the 1960s. It was said to be "highly restricted" creating the "finest home section in Mercer County." Note the prominent chimney, stone accents, and arched windows and doors. This home has several look-alikes through the northeastern parts of the city, likely a local design.

## 2 216 Buhl Boulevard

George Roy Johnson, an auditor for the Sharon Steel Hoop Co., had this Spanish Eclectic house built circa 1929. Johnson would become the Assistant Treasurer for Sharon Steel Corp. The home is unusual for the area, though in the 1920s, this was a popular style. With a small window above the front entrance, which bears a decorative iron balcony, it mimics a "mission" belltower. Decorative iron, wood, and tilework are seen inside and out. This model was "home of the year" and came in Spanish, storybook Tudor, and Cape Cod.

## 3 217 Buhl Boulevard

Arthur Cornwell immigrated from England for a job as a church organist but became a carpenter and contractor instead. He built this Dutch Colonial house as early as 1929, but likely in 1935. It was owned by James L. Smeyers, a salesman. Later owners would be executives at local steel mills. Note the swan's neck pediment over the door.





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## **4** 229 Buhl Boulevard

This house was likely a kit home, or the plans were bought from a magazine. It was built circa 1940 by Arthur Cornwell like its neighbor at 217 Buhl Boulevard. Edmund F. Sipher and his wife were the first owners. He was an engineer for Westinghouse Electric Corp.

## **5** 242 Buhl Boulevard

Another unusual design for the Valley, this Spanish Eclectic residence was built for James D. and Alice F. Boyle circa 1930-35. Boyle was an auditor, personal property tax adjuster for Mercer County, and worked for Westinghouse Electric Corp. Stucco and stone construction, red tile roof, and a prominent tower with an arched entrance are key features here.

## **6** 310 Buhl Boulevard

Harry J. Allum, Treasurer of Allum-Williams Inc., later Allum Motors Inc., at 1300 East State Street at Forker Boulevard, had this house built circa 1938. About a decade later, the family moved to Erie, Pennsylvania. This residence is of brick construction with a Georgian entry. An automobile garage with living quarters above, likely for a live-in maid, is on the left.

## **7** 319 Buhl Boulevard

A classic design, this Colonial Revival house was built in the early 1930s by Chauncey E. Brockway, President of the First National Bank and an attorney. The house is brick with a symmetrical façade, dentils under the eaves, and a side porch. The entry is key with a pediment over the door and sidelights.

## **8** 371 Buhl Boulevard

One of the finest Tudor Revival cottages in the city, this was built in 1928 for Dr. Harry W. Millikin. It was likely designed by Taylor & Taylor, architects from Canton, formerly of Sharon, who designed three Tudor cottages of similar size and quality on Highland Road. The front façade is dominated by a large gable, stonework, and half-timbering. Note the prominent chimney with multiple flues and clinker bricks. A streetcar, or trolley, right-of-way traveled behind the houses on this side of the street, bound for Buhl Park from downtown.

## **9** 389 Buhl Boulevard

Built during World War II, this modest Tudor Revival cottage was the home of Dr. William A. and Nell Applegate. Compared to those built earlier, this cottage lacks the interest and unique features that define its predecessors on Highland Road, which aligns it with the Minimal Traditional style. The enclosure on the right was likely an automobile garage originally.

## **10** 591 Buhl Boulevard

The Hollywood Regency-style home of Benjamin H. and Myrtle S. Marks was built circa 1940-42. Marks was born in Austria-Hungary and lived in Farrell until building this home. He was a lawyer. The home features corner quoins, a Georgian front entry with sidelights and simple pilasters, and a front balcony with a wrought-iron balustrade.

## **11** 662 Buhl Boulevard

The Neoclassical Revival home, nicknamed "The White House", was built for Nathaniel D. Devlin and his "spinster" sisters circa 1953-55. Devlin was President of Rotary Electric Steel Co. of Detroit. The Devlins were known for lavish parties for Sharon's "who's who." The home was designed by Wilfred Wickstrom, a builder and designer in Birmingham, Michigan.



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## 12 675 Woodlawn Drive

Henry V. Putman, Vice President of the Sharon Westinghouse Electric Corp. was built circa 1937-40. In 1952, James H. Flagg, Executive Vice President of Sawhill Tubular Products Inc. moved in. A few years later in 1959, Donald B. and Anna Sawhill bought the place. He was Vice President-Secretary of Sawhill Tubular Products Inc. The home is an eclectic mix of Georgian, Federal, and Cape Cod features. With this combination, it is reminiscent of New England. It is white painted brick and siding. Federal-style bunting is seen at the cornice. The home was likely added onto at least once.

## 13 655 Woodlawn Drive

This Garrison Colonial Revival home, built circa 1937-40, was home to Homer B. and Laura C. West. West was the Manager of Manufacturing at Westinghouse Electric Corp. Around 1959, Benton W. Norton moved in. He was Vice President of Valley Hotel Operating Co. at the Shenango Inn and Vice President-General Manager of The Shenango Furnace Co.'s Blast Furnace and Ingot Mold Division. The home has wooden wall cladding with whitewashed brick chimneys and a slate roof. This subtype of the Colonial Revival is loosely based on Postmedieval English prototypes and features a second story that extends slightly outward to overhang the wall below with decorative pendants, a symmetrical façade with two bay windows that flank the front entry, and shutters with decorative handles. The front sidewalk connects to the winding driveway, showing the influence of the automobile. This home is similar to a design by renowned Cleveland architect, Munroe W. Copper.

## 14 1189 Highland Road

Likely the first large-scale country home built in this neighborhood - setting the tone and expectation for grand homes on this exclusive street - this magnificent Tudor Revival residence was designed by Frank C. Taylor, local architect, in 1924 for M. V. DeForest. Troutman and Christman were the general contractors-builders, McCormick-Burns Company for plumbing and heating, J. C. Hoffman & Sons for roofing, and J. H. Seegers & Son for painting. DeForest owned DeForest's Pioneer Music House and DeForest's Buick Co. which sold and serviced Buick, Cadillac, LaSalle, and Pontiac automobiles. He was also the President of the Music Merchants Association of America. Notable owners were Oscar B. and Myrtle Rosenblum, wholesale grocers later starting Golden Dawn Foods, Henry A. Roemer Jr., President of Sharon Steel Corp., and Dr. Robert E. and Kathryn P. Sass.

The mansion is one of the finest examples of Tudor Revival architecture in the Valley. The home features brick and stucco construction, massive and elaborate chimneys, and a fine multi-colored slate roof. Note the front chimney with stacks turned 90 degrees; the brickwork is purposefully wavy to mimic the old English country estates from which this style is derived. Formal sunken gardens and the Sharon Country Club golf course is in the rear.

## 15 1214 Highland Road

This fine Tudor Revival home was built circa 1930 for Henry V. Putman, who later moved to 675 Woodlawn Drive. This may have been designed by Taylor & Taylor, Canton architects, who designed the three cottages down Highland for M. V. DeForest. It features brick and false half-timbering, multiple gables, a slate roof, and a prominent chimney. The timbering has decorative, exaggerated nail joists. Original woodwork, fireplaces, and lighting fixtures remain inside.



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## **16** 1250 Highland Road

*Thomas M. Galbreath was the sales manager for Sharon Steel Hoop Co. and had this grand Tudor Revival mansion built circa 1928. The home features a brick first floor with a mix of wooden shingle and false half-timbering on the upper floors. Stone accents the front entry, the chimneys, and the base of the bay windows. The roofline has verge boards with subtle detail. The side entry is surrounded by a Tudor arch fan and sidelights, this seems to have been the preferred entry to the home. The home looks small from the street, most of the home actually extends back.*

## **17** 519 Carley Avenue

*Another example of the Tudor Revival style, this modest home was purchased by Robert O. and Marian Leota Hurst in September 1930 in the Buhl Parkway Subdivision of the Buhl Boulevard Land Co. Hurst was an electric engineer at Westinghouse Electric Corp. The home is built of brick with stone, both rough cut and carved, surrounding the entry. This concept is similar to kit homes by Sears, Roebuck & Co. which sold the plans and materials.*

## **18** 529 Carley Avenue

*Built in 1930, this is one of the many Tudor Revival homes in this neighborhood. Walter E. and Olive V. Cochran lived here. He was a foreman at American Sheet & Tin Plate Co. The sunburst stonework above and surrounding the front entry is the most interesting feature of this Depression-era home.*

## **19** 588 Carley Avenue

*Modeled after a Georgian Revival home in Pittsburgh, this 1940 residence was built for Dr. William J. Harrer Jr. and his wife, Louise. They only lived there a few years before Harrer was called to service as a doctor during World War II. Upon returning from the War, the home was sold to the Kaisers. The Harrers bought land at 1109 Highland Road and built a massive stone Colonial Revival home. George and Dorothea Kaiser bought the home in 1945. Kaiser was an electric engineer for Westinghouse Electric Corp. and had one daughter, Dorothea Elise. The family was known for parties, often in period gowns. They traveled extensively around the world and brought many pieces home with them such as the dining room chandelier and handmade Portuguese tiles in the powder room and kitchen, depicting Dorothea Elise's favorite things like the family dog, neighbors' pets, and produce.*

## **20** 625 Carley Avenue

*Lorenz H. and Carol B. Wilson constructed this Cape Cod-style house around 1937. Wilson was Chief Metallurgist metallurgist for Sharon Steel Corp. The wood-frame cottage has a shake shingle roof.*

## **21** 1340 Yahres Road

*This beautiful Georgian Revival home was built circa 1948-49 by Harry W. Allum, President of Allum-Williams Inc. which dealt in Dodge and Plymouth automobiles. This is a later addition to the Yahres Road development which was primarily in 1936-40. Earl Lostetter, presumably the developer of this section, was a general contractor and sold lumber/builders supplies. The home is brick with a symmetrical façade and a hipped roof. A planned median on the upper portion of Yahres, near Carley, added prestige to the location.*



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## **22** 1315 Yahres Road

This is the grandest home in the Yahres Road development, primarily in 1936-40. This fine Colonial Revival was built for Walton L. and Nellie Woody in 1936. Woody was from Cleveland and the manager at National Malleable and Steel Castings Co. Dr. William A. Applegate and Wilber T. Blair, Vice President Treasurer of Sharon Steel Corporation, were later owners of the home. It is suspected that it was designed by Copper and Dunn, Cleveland architects, and bears an accentuated front door with classic columns and an original two-story side wing with an attached garage. A knotty pine den, breakfast room, five bedrooms, maid's quarters, and three bathrooms add to the home's elegance. A fine slate roof, original windows, and original clapboard siding remain.

## **23** 1312 Yahres Road

George N. McConnell had this Neo-Classical house built circa 1937-39; he was the Secretary-Assistant Treasurer of the Shenango Valley Water Co. This house, and the others in this development, were seen as a triumph after the Great Depression and into the World War II boom. Note the bird-in-flight weathervane.

## **24** 1300 Yahres Road

This humble 1937-39 Cape Cod home, with its trio of dormers, is loosely patterned after early wooden folk houses of eastern Massachusetts, with Georgian- or Adam-inspired doorways. Bay windows capped with metal roofs are supported by stone brackets. William F. Faas was in general insurance and real estate.

## **25** 1293 Yahres Road

Cyril T. and Claudia E. Garvey moved into this house between 1949-52. Cyril was the son of Hugh J. and Patience Garvey. Upon graduation, he built this house, studied law, and served as the solicitor for the Sharon Sanitation Authority. They had eight children. The home is brick construction with a square plan and had a flat roof, originally. The front entry porch has prominent Doric columns. A common Greek Revival characteristic is the decorative Greek fretwork made of brick just below the cornice.

## **26** 678 Forker Boulevard

On October 1, 1933, Hugh J. Garvey Jr., President of the Sharpsville Boiler Works Co., awarded the contract for this handsome stone home adjoining Buhl Farm Park to L. Vasconi & Sons. It was designed by prominent Cleveland architects, Copper & Dunn, in the eastern Pennsylvania farmhouse style. It was noted as the most attractive home in the district and equipped with every modern convenience.

## **27** 486 Forker Boulevard

Charles S. Flower, a local contractor and builder, built this brick Neo-Classical house in 1940. Note the colonnaded front porch and windows flanking the entry. The house was built for Charles D. and Florence J. Fagan, President of Sharpsville Steel Fabricators.

## **28** 381 Forker Boulevard

The Colonial Revival home of T. James and Emma K. Kavanagh was built circa 1940-42. Kavanagh was a purchasing agent and eventual President of Wheatland Tube Co. This is a Regency variation of the Colonial Revival style, loosely based on English precedents, and was popular in the 1930s and '40s. The home features brick construction, a cornice with dentil moldings, and a round pedimented entry.