

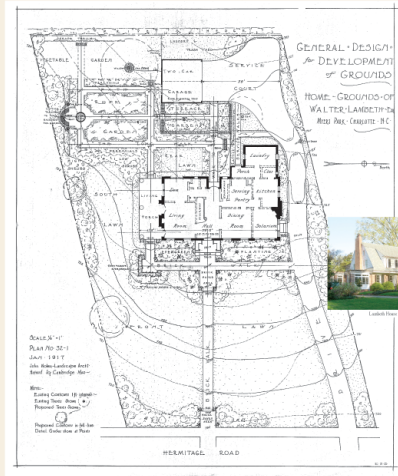
# John Nolen's Landscape in Myers Park

In most planned suburbs, landscape designers create only the street system and parks. But in Charlotte's Myers Park, John Nolen went much further.

Neighborhood developer George Stephens asked Nolen to create detailed planting plans, including yards and gardens for more than 40 early lot buyers.

Recently, historians rediscovered those drawings in the archives of Cornell University.

This plan for banker Walter Lambeth at 518 Hermitage Road shows Nolen at his most thorough. Note how the design carefully aligns interior rooms with outdoor spaces.



Looking West in 1910, photo by Fred Steiner

"Fences cannot be built in front of houses."

-John Nolen, "See Plans for City"

## Streetscapes

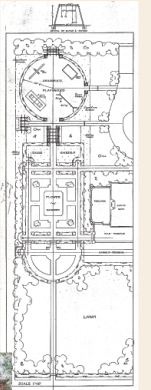
This group plan suggests how Nolen created "streetscapes:"

- Front yards are "public space." Houses are set back from the street, and no fences are allowed in front, so that yards blend into each other visually. To a walker strolling down the avenue, it feels almost like being in a continuous park.
- Back yards are "private space."

- Can you find:
- Vegetable gardens?
  - Fruit trees?
  - Poultry pens?
  - Clothes-drying areas?



The grand sweep of Queens Road West was created by Nolen's Charlotte-based designer Earle Sumner Draper. Even before houses went up, he planted a row of trees marching along the median - two more rows along the sidewalks - and more rows in the front yards. Today their branches meet to form a "green cathedral."



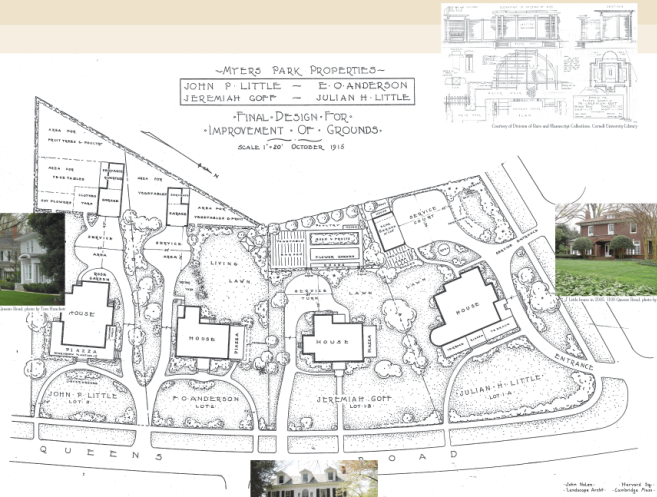
The Charles Moody House originally stood on Providence Road. In the 1980s it was moved to 949 Granville Road.



Charles Moody, ca. 1910

"Few suburbs anywhere in the United States exhibit this level of thorough planning"

- Myers Park Historic District, National Register of Historic Places



821 Harvard Place, looking East, ca. 1910, photo by Fred Steiner



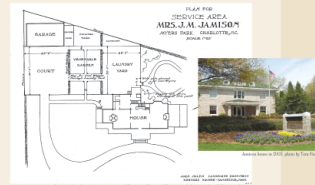
802 Providence Road, looking West, ca. 1910, photo by Fred Steiner



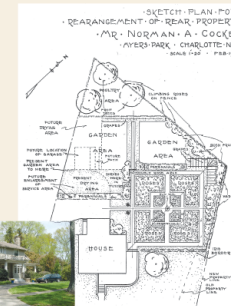
816 Harvard Place, looking West, ca. 1910, photo by Fred Steiner

802 Providence Road is the stone house of the Jamison family, today a First Citizens Bank branch. It was a "country house" -

- can you find:
- Vegetable gardens?
  - Chicken coop and poultry yard?
  - Clothes-drying area?
  - Route for coal wagons to furnace?

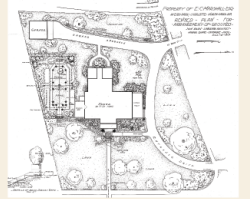


816 Harvard Place, looking West, ca. 1910, photo by Fred Steiner



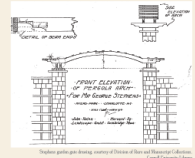
816 Harvard Place, looking West, ca. 1910, photo by Fred Steiner

816 Harvard Place, the bungalow of Norman Cocke, the Duke Power official for whom Lake Norman is named.



500 Hermitage Road, looking West, ca. 1910, photo by Fred Steiner

500 Hermitage Road at Ardley Road - mansion of E.C. Marshall, Duke Power executive for whom Marshall Steam Plant (north of Charlotte) is named.



821 Harvard Place was the residence of George Stephens, the developer who hired John Nolen to design Myers Park.

"Out of the Dust, Out of the Heat, A Country Home on a City Street." - Myers Park sales brochure, 1910s



Early photos show the formal garden Nolen created for H. M. McAden, 920 Granville Road.



# JOHN NOLEN: Neighborhood-Maker

Sponsored by:



Partnered by:

