

**Petition Submittal - John Walker Moore House - 609 Blankenbaker Lane**

**The following are just some of the Petitioners who live within 1 mile of 609 Blankenbaker Lane:**

**Anne Ardery**

**Charles Barr**

**Elizabeth E. Barr**

**James C. Boone**

**Rosemary Boone**

**Kitty Breetz**

**Matthew Breetz**

**Sandra**

**Eleanor Brown**

**James Buckheit**

**Rachael Buckheit**

**Helen Bragg Cleary**

**Richard Cleary**

**Lee Cory**

**Neal Cory**

**Preston Cory**

**Stewart Cory**

**Frank Doheny - Of Counsel - City of Indian Hills**

**Susan Dougherty**

**Bernadette Hamilton**

**Mary Hancock**

**Judy Hanekap**

**Cathy Hundley**

**Clay Hundley**

**Ray Hundley**

**Meyer Hundley**

**Chenault James**

**Ed James**

**Margaret Johnson**

**Jack Johnson**

**Laura Johnson**

**Elizabeth Johnston**

**Randolph Johnston**

**Joe B. Jones**

**Mark King**

**Evelyn Kunkel**

**David Laird**

**Nancy Laird**

**Neil Kunkel**

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**Chris LeBoeuf**  
**Becky LeBouef**  
**Karen Lichtefeld**  
**Paul Lichtefeld**  
**Jennifer McCormick**  
**Marcus Merritt**  
**Judith Merritt**  
**David Morgan - former SHPO KY**  
**Mary Lee Nelson**  
**Betty Lee Payne**  
**David Richardson**  
**Kathy Roth**  
**Danny Roth**  
**Brooke Smith**  
**Pam Smith**  
**Vertner Smith**  
**Franklin Starks IV**  
**Hollis Starks**  
**Jack Stewart**  
**Bill Tafel**  
**Rebecca Tafel**  
**Amanda Tyler**  
**Terry Tyler**  
**Carolyn VanWinkle**  
**Julian VanWinkle**  
**Barbara West**  
**John Whitehead**

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**Petition Submittal - John Walker Moore House - 609 Blankenbaker Lane**

**Description of the Boundaries of the Proposed Local Landmark**

The proposed local landmark is located at 609 Blankenbaker Lane, Indian Hills, Louisville, KY. The petitioners seek to landmark only 0.20 acres of the 10 acre property, and the historic house located on the 0.20 acres.

The attached Lojic map shows the proposed boundary lines for the landmark, and all of the structures, properties, and public rights-of-way for at least a distance of 200 feet outside of the proposed local landmark boundary. The map depicts two structures on the property, a house and a separate garage, on approximately 10 acres of land.

The boundaries of the landmark are indicated on the map with a line drawn around the house and proposed yard.

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# LOJIC Online Map

A GIS Partnership to Meet Growing Needs of Louisville, KY

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609 Blankenbaker Lane  
Louisville, KY 40207  
John Walker Moore House

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Survey Control

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Property

Transportation

Taxing Districts

Environmental

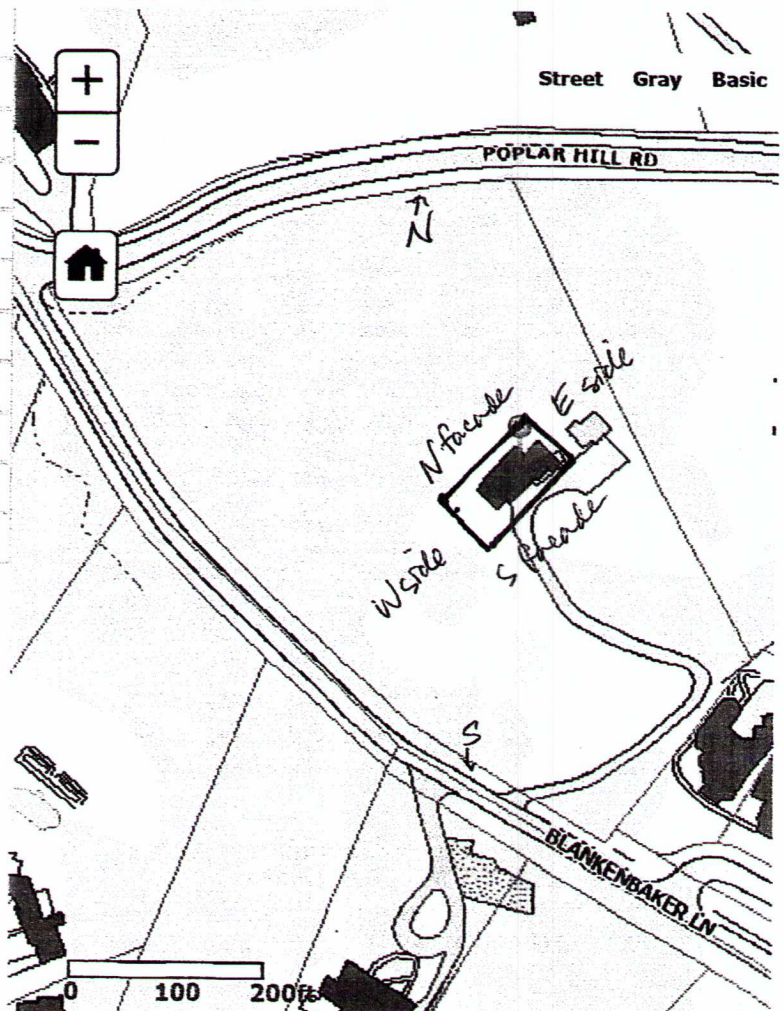
Preservation

Floodplain

Planning

Open Spaces

Elevation



The boundaries of the property to be landmarked are shown on the map above within the box.

Petitioners request that only the historic house and 0.20 acres of the property under and around the house, or the minimum yard requirement for R-4, be landmarked.

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**Petition Submittal - John Walker Moore House - 609 Blankenbaker Lane**

**Photographs of all of the facades of the structure:**

- **Photograph #1 North facade - taken from intersection of Blankenbaker Lane & River Hill Rd**
- **Photograph #2 South & West sides - taken from Blankenbaker Lane**
- **Photograph #3 North & East sides - taken from Poplar Hill Road**
- **Photograph #4 South facade - taken from 2220 Grove Hill Place**
- **Photograph #5 West side - taken from back yard of 31 River Hill Road**

**Logic Map showing locations from which each photograph was taken**

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John Walker Moore House - 609 Blankenbaker Lane Louisville, Ky 40207



Photo #1 North facade Taken from intersection of Blankenbaker Lane  
M.L. Dwyer 11/14/01

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John Walker Moore House - 609 Blankenbaker Lane Louisville, Ky 40207



Photo #2 South + West sides; Taken from Blankenbaker Lane

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John Walker Moore House - 609 Blankenbaker Lane Louisville, Ky 40207



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Photo #3 North + East sides; taken from Poplar Hill Road



John Walker Moore House - 609 Blankenbaker Lane - Louisville, Ky 40207



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Photo #4 South facade; Taken from 2220 Grove Hill Place 10 DESTINATION 1000



John Walker Moore House - 609 Blankenbaker Lane Louisville, Ky 40267

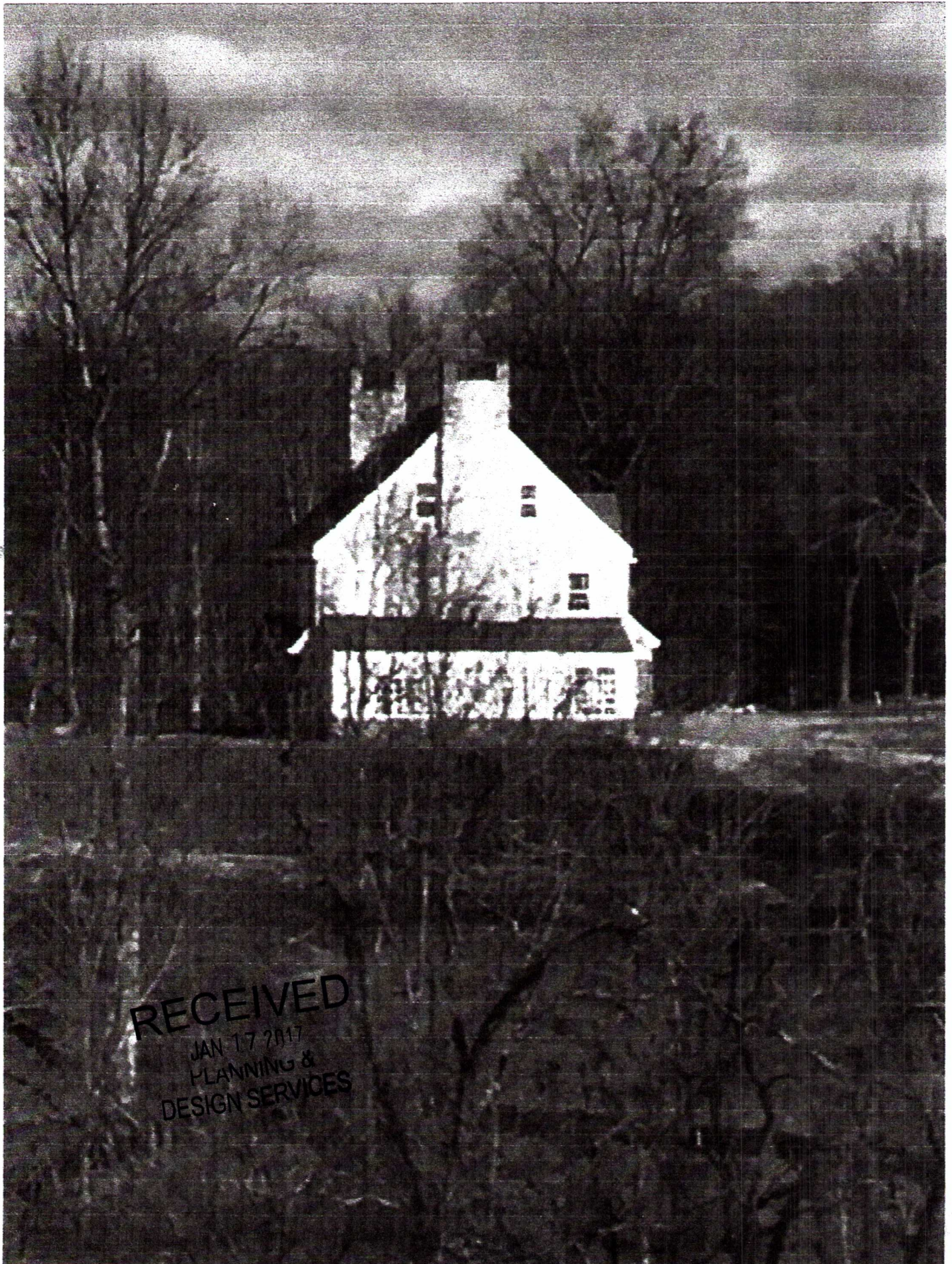


Photo #5 West side; Taken from back yard of 31 River Hill Road  
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John Walker Moore House  
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Louisville, Ky 40207

Survey Control

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Transportation

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Environmental

Preservation

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Planning

Open Spaces

Elevation

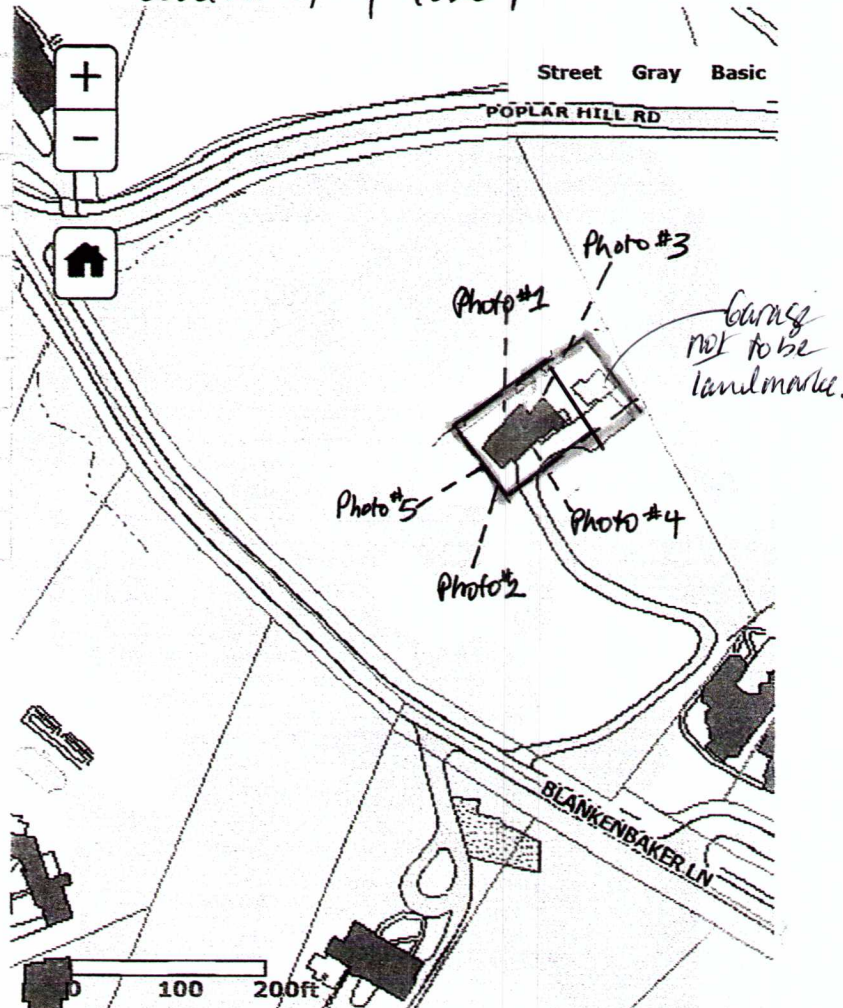


Photo #1 North facade - taken from intersection of Blankenbaker Lane & River Hill Rd

Photo #2 South & West sides - taken from Blankenbaker Lane

Photo #3 North & East sides - taken from Poplar Hill Road

Photo #4 South facade - taken from 2220 Grove Hill Place

Photo #5 West side - taken from back yard of 31 River Hill Road

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## **NARRATIVE DESCRIBING THE CATEGORIES UNDER WHICH DESIGNATION IS REQUESTED**

The proposed Local Landmark meets Local Landmark Designation Criteria (a), (b), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h) and (i).

**Criterion (a) Its character as part of the development or heritage of Louisville and Jefferson County, and Criterion (b) its exemplification of the historic, aesthetic, architectural heritage of Louisville**

The John Walker Moore House is located on Blankenbaker Lane, in a neighborhood now known as Indian Hills, and is a significant part of the historic cultural landscape of Louisville. The stretch of Blankenbaker Lane both north and south of the Moore House still includes large, historic houses, which range in date from 1790 at Locust Grove, to the 1930s.

The Moore house, which was built in 1923, is characteristic of the development and heritage of Louisville and Jefferson County, and is significant in the areas of Jefferson County's community planning and development, transportation, and architecture. It is a classic example of how the automobile changed living patterns in Jefferson County, allowing people to move out of the urban center, to the east, to more rural areas on the bluffs along the Ohio River and upper River Road. From the turn of the century to the 1930's, many formerly urban residents moved out of town and built large houses or mansions on the bluffs above the river, seeking a sense of isolation, privacy, low density, and large yards, the same characteristics that draw people to Indian Hills today.

**Criterion (d) Its Identification with a person who significantly contributed to the culture and development of Louisville Metro, Jefferson County, the Commonwealth and the nation**

Dr. John Walker Moore (1884-1952) made great contributions to local, state, national and international medicine, and was the first full time Dean of the University School of Medicine. He was also President of the American Association of Medical Colleges (1949). Dr. Moore commissioned a prominent, nationally known architect to build his house in 1923, and lived there from 1923 until 1950, during his entire career as Dean.

According to U of L historian, Dr. Gordon R. Tobin, Dr. Moore gave spectacular service to the University of Louisville through stellar achievement in many areas. He was a beloved teacher, outstanding clinician, breakthrough cardiology investigator, and respected Dean (1929 - 1949), whose stewardship saved the school during times of financial crises, and sustained it through the Great Depression and World War II, when all of his students were in uniform. According to Terri Ganzel, the current Dean of the U of L School of Medicine, Dr. Moore's insights in education, cardiac physiology, and clinical care contribute to this day. (Dr. Ganzel lives on

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Poplar Hill Road, within a stone's throw of the Moore house, and is one of the petitioners seeking to save the house from demolition.

Dr. Moore's landmark research contribution was the development of the dye/indicator dilution measurement of cardiac output in humans. His studies became a milestone in cardiac history, and led to today's sophisticated cardiac care. His 20 years as Dean brought great expansion of U of L's full time medical faculty, effective curricular revisions, and the first U of L medical research institute. He laid the foundation for the world renowned research facility that the U of L School of Medicine is today. Moore College of the U of L School of Medicine is named in honor of Dr. Moore.

**Criterion (e) Its embodiment of distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type and Criterion (f) Its identification as the work of an architect whose individual work has influenced the development of Louisville Metro, Jefferson County and the nation**

The John Walker Moore House is one of Louisville's finest and most characteristic examples of Colonial Revival architecture. It was designed by prominent American architect, Carl Augustus Zeigler (1878 - 1952) of Philadelphia. He received his degree in architecture from the University of Pennsylvania, and also studied at the Pennsylvania Museum and School of Industrial Art, and Spring Garden Institute. Early in his career, he was associated with the Philadelphia firms of Frank Miles Day & Bros., Cope & Stewardson, and Keen & Mead. Subsequently he formed the successful firm of Duhring, Okie & Zeigler, later Duhring & Zeigler. During his association with Duhring, he established a national reputation as an expert on the Colonial and Georgian Revival styles of architecture. (See *The Smaller American House*, Powell, E., 1927, p.90; *American Country Houses of Today*, 1930)

In addition to the Moore house, Zeigler designed two National Register eligible houses in the neighborhood of the Moore house, the Reynolds/Owen mansion on River Hill Road and the Bingham house across the street on River Hill Road. He also designed other important houses in Louisville, including "Mockingbird," the Arnold/Heyburn/Arderly/Blakemore mansion at 41 Mockingbird Valley Drive, the Harper house at 3309 Green Hill Lane and the renovation of the Gifford house at 2412 Longest Avenue, which was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1976.

Zeigler also designed Louisville's finest example of commercial Georgian Revival architecture, The First National Bank & Kentucky Title Company Building at 214 S. Fifth Street, which was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1983. In his later years, Zeigler was President of the Committee for the Preservation of Historic Landmarks, and was instrumental in the restoration of Carpenters Hall, Independence Hall and Washington's headquarters at Valley Forge.

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**Criterion (g) Its embodiment of elements of or architectural design, detail, materials, or craftsmanship, which represents a significant architectural innovation**

The house was built by Italian craftsmen, using a unique technique which was designed to withstand the ravages of time, and even fire. The 22" inch thick limestone walls have a concrete core and concrete, rather than mortar, poured between the courses of limestone. This uniquely strong construction saved the house from a potentially devastating fire in 1950.

After the fire, David P. Reynolds, Chairman of Reynolds Metals, bought the house to restore it, but in 1952, sold it to Charles D. Dunne, owner of the Dunne Press and Insurance Index. Dunne restored the handsome house, which still features a large gum wood paneled living room, western sun porch, study, dining room, screened porch, breakfast room, and kitchen on the first floor; four bedrooms and four baths on the second floor; and a large dormitory room and bath on the third floor. (*Louisville Courier-Journal*, 11/9/1952) Today, the handsome house has withstood the tests of time and neglect, and is still as impressive as it was when it was built, almost 100 years ago.

**Criterion (h) Its relationship to other distinctive areas, which are eligible for preservation according to a plan based on an historic, cultural, and architectural motif**

The house is on the western edge of the National Register listed Country Estates of River Road Historic District (Listed 1998). It is on the eastern edge of the National Register Eligible River Hill/Stonebridge (2003 & 2011 Federal Environmental Impact Statement - Ohio River Bridges Project). It is also in close proximity to the southern edge of National Historic Landmark Locust Grove, as this property was part of the original acreage of Locust Grove. (By all accounts, the John Walker Moore house and other houses in its vicinity, should have been identified in the 2003 & 2011 FEIS surveys of Jefferson County Historic Resources, but were apparently missed or lost.)

If or when the City of Indian Hills decides to create a neighborhood plan and historic district, as Glenview and Mockingbird Valley have done, the John Walker Moore House would be a significant contributing resource. The vicinity of the house has traits established in the Country Estates of River Road Context and the River Hill/Stonebridge Historic District, specifically architect designed houses of the early 20th century, winding roads and thoroughfares, and a sense of isolation and privacy.

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**Criterion (i) Its unique location and physical characteristics which reinforce the physical continuity of the neighborhood within Louisville Metro**

The location of the house on top of Poplar Hill, facing Ohio River and its classic, early 20th century Colonial Revival architecture are characteristic of the River Hill/Poplar Hill neighborhood of Indian Hills. The presence of two other Zeigler houses in the immediate neighborhood, reinforces how the John Walker Moore House reinforces the physical continuity of the neighborhood. The John Walker Moore house is a prominent feature on Blankenbaker Lane and would be greatly missed.

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## 18 BUILDING TH

# One Shell Plus \$55,000

Charles D. Dunne turns the fire-gutted Dr. John Walker Moore house into a handsome residence, in the face of advice that he not tackle the project.

By GRADY CLAY  
Courier-Journal Building Editor

ONE BRIGHT summer afternoon two years ago, fire broke out in the attic of a handsome, three-story country home on Blankenbaker Lane, overlooking the Ohio River Valley.

By night, the entire house of Dr. John Walker Moore, former University of Louisville Medical School dean, was gutted. Only the 22-inch-thick limestone walls remained.

It was a tragic afternoon, not only because a handsome home was destroyed, but because it was so needless; the 2-inch water line just didn't supply enough water for the volunteer firefighters.

### Bought By Reynolds

For months, the stark, gray walls stuck up over the 7-acre hilltop, until the place was bought by David P. Reynolds. He planned to remodel the ruins into a house, but finally bought a house on nearby Blankenbaker Hill and sold the Moore property to Charles D. Dunne for \$19,000.

Dunne, his father, James E. Dunne, and mother own the Dunne Press and The Insurance Index.

At this time Charles Dunne lived on Alta Vista Road near Seneca Park.

During World War II, young Dunne (now 41) served in the Chemical Warfare Service, where he studied the effects of incendiary bombs on stone and masonry structures, especially in Italian cities.

"These walls (in the old Moore house) had been put up by Italian craftsmen who knew what they were doing," he said. The house was designed by architect Carl Ziegler, Philadelphia, and built in 1923 at a cost of about \$35,000. Ziegler also has designed a number of other homes and buildings in Louisville.

### Concrete Used

The walls have a concrete core. And, instead of mortar, they have concrete between the courses of limestone, said Dunne.

"Pete Watters (a neighbor) used to call me and say don't try to remodel the house," he recalled. "Henry Stites wanted me to knock the walls down. All my



These gaunt stone walls and chimneys were Dr. John Walker Moore's on a hill overlooking Blankenbaker Lane.

well-meaning friends said I was making a mistake."

But today, after spending some \$55,000 and many months of planning, Dunne and his family are living in the completely remodeled house, and are delighted with it.

All the exterior walls are just where they stood between the 1950 fire and the 1952 remodeling. Only a few small portions of wall have been added or relaid to accommodate new window or door openings.

Rebuilding a burned-out Pennsylvania Dutch-style farmhouse was no simple matter.

Dunne, who was worried about the weather's effect on the bare walls, hired an 80-year-old Swiss-born contractor, O. M. Reiser, Sr., to "fix the place up," and at least get a roof on it.

"Fixing the place up" soon developed into a complete reconstruction, with Reiser acting as

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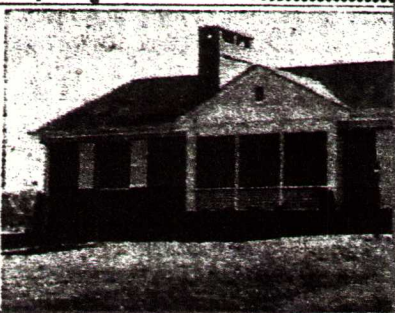
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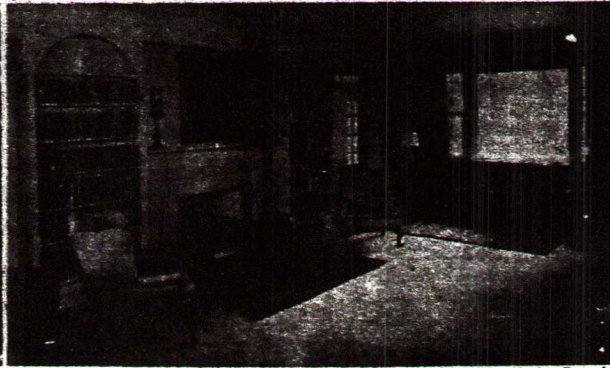
SING SHOW

THE COURIER-JOURNAL, LOUISVILLE, SUNDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 9, 1952

## You Would Hardly Recognize The Old Moore Home These Days



Today, after complete reconstruction, the old Moore Home is a handsome mansion. It is the home of the C. D. and J. E. Dunne families.



In the living room, the floor is 18 inches below the level of the original floor, destroyed in the fire. The wall paneling is gum.

Continued From Preceding Page  
architect, contractor and cabinet-maker.

(Stratton O. Hammon, an architect who lives on nearby Blankenbaker Hill, has filed a Circuit Court suit against Dunne, seeking \$4,500 in fee plus damages for what he maintains were his own plans "wrongfully appropriated" by Dunne. Dunne denies that Hammon's plans were used in the reconstruction.)

There were hitches, of course. The National Production Authority office here insisted that the house was "new construction" and, under N.P.A. metal-saving regulations, couldn't have more than 1½ baths.

But Dunne, with the aid of attorney Henry J. Stites, successfully maintained that this was remodeling, not original construction. So the second floor has four bathrooms.

As Dunne recalls it now, contractor Reiser had "his own ideas" about what the finished house should look like. Reiser planned for four crystal chandeliers in the 30x17-foot living room, but the Dunnes demurred. The living room floor was dropped 18 inches—over Reiser's objections.

But the final product gives the Dunnes small cause to complain. They now have a large home, handsomely furnished, with a large living room, western sunporch, study, dining room, screened porch, breakfast room and kitchen on the first floor; four bedrooms and four baths upstairs, and a large dormitory room and space for bath on the third floor. The garage has been remodeled to include a servant's room and bath.

As far as Charles Dunne is concerned, the living room is the "best room in the house." For the first time since the family

moved back to Louisville from Chicago in 1935, he has all his books out of storage—nearly 200 running feet of books around the living-room walls.

The original tier of three double-hung windows on the living room facing the Indiana Knobs has been replaced with a double-glass picture window, flanked by small double-hung windows.

Another project uppermost in Dunne's mind at the moment is The Insurance Center, which is the old Strand Theater Building at 326 W. Chestnut.

Dunne says he together with Henry J. Stites, Dennis H. Long and Chicago real-estate man A. W. Baker, bought the six-story building recently from Louisville Amusement and Operating Corporation for about \$550,000. They were incorporated as The Insurance Center, Inc.

Dunne envisions the building—after its contemplated million-dollar remodeling—as a sort of local mecca for life insurance firms.

### Other Cities Have 'Em

"Every other big city besides Louisville has one," he said. "There's the Bourse Building in Philadelphia, Eight East Market in Indianapolis—places where insurance men can run down the hall, or upstairs, and 'broker' any particular piece of risk they may have."

The building's tenants will all be insurance firms, he said. How could he know it would work?

"We made a few test calls to insurance people, and they all said they'd want to rent space," he said.

The only non-Louisvillian in the ownership group, Baker, was for 18 years with the big real-estate firm of Draper and Kramer, Chicago. He was its vice-president and secretary before coming to Louisville recently.

Why did they choose the Strand's location?

Baker says it's a "hot" location, with plenty of parking space

nearby. And Dunne is convinced "the ground alone (105 feet of frontage on Chestnut) is worth what we paid for the building."

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