

# Tudor Manor House On Highland Ave.

CONTRIBUTED BY MIKE FARRELLY,  
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PHOTOGRAPHY BY ANDREW WANDER

**T**HE 1982 JUNIOR LEAGUE Preservation Survey calls this house a “Tudor Manor House.” Andrew Wander’s book *Stately Homes of Montclair* agrees and says that it “feels like a country estate.” The permit for the house was taken out in 1915. It was expected to cost about \$10,000 but the house doesn’t seem to have been completed right away. The architect, Roland I. Markwith, designed it for a local couple, Francis and Dorothy Earle, who had it built to be near both of their parent’s homes. The 1916 Directory shows that Francis was still living with his parents, Ellis P. and Adelaide Earle on Edgewood Terrace. He served overseas in 1917 and 1918. He and Dorothy probably didn’t move in until 1919, or so. They were definitely living in this house according to the 1920 directory. Ellis and Adelaide Earle, Francis’ parents, built a mansion at 10 Edgewood Terrace. in 1909. Dorothy’s parents, Solomon and Lucy Wright built their mansion at 122 Upper Mountain Ave. a few years earlier. It was an easy walk to this house from both of those mansions. Francis graduated from Princeton University and went to work with his dad at the E.P. Earle Minerals and Metals Co. A few years later he founded the Dyes and Chemicals Co. of Brooklyn. At the time of his death, he owned a lacquer company in Roselle Park called the Mearl Corp. Francis and Dorothy only lived at this house for a few years, but they didn’t move far away. They only moved a few doors to the north (still near their parents).

Around 1928 Paul L. and Anna (Beach) Haid lived in our featured house. They had lived on Montclair Ave. for about 10 years before that. Paul was an insurance executive. He had been the president of the American Fore Insurance Group, but left it in order to head an insurance advocacy organization called The Insurance Executive’s Assoc. The couple did not live in our featured house very long. Anna passed away shortly after they moved in, and Paul went to live in New York City.

The next family stayed in the house for many years. The next couple, Emil and Marion (Reiss) Tietje, were married in 1923. Marion’s dad, Jacob Reiss, was the wealthy owner of the Wisconsin based C. Riess Coal Co., the Northern Furniture Co.

and several other companies. Jacob gave the newlyweds a home on Highland Ave. It was 4 doors down from our featured home. In 1932 they moved 4 doors up to our featured home. Emil had been the VP of the Tietje Furniture Co. of Union City, NJ which he co-owned with his brother, Carl, who also lived in Montclair. Emil later became the VP of his father-in-law’s company, the Northern Furniture Co., which by then was known as R-Way Furniture with headquarters in New York City. “R-Way” was the trademark used by the Northern Furniture Co. It became so well known that the company changed its name to match the trademark. R-Way was very successful for several decades, but sales started to slow down. They ceased operations in 1993. Carl Tietje also became associated with the R-Way Furniture Co.

Marion Tietje grew up in Wisconsin where she was a champion equestrian and talented amateur golfer. She continued to play golf for the rest of her life and was an active member of the Montclair Golf Club, even serving as chair of the Women’s Golf Group in 1940. She was very active in the parent’s associations of her kid’s schools, especially at Lacordaire. She was the recording secretary of the Lacordaire Parent’s Guild and very involved with that group. The organization that she dedicated the most time to was the →

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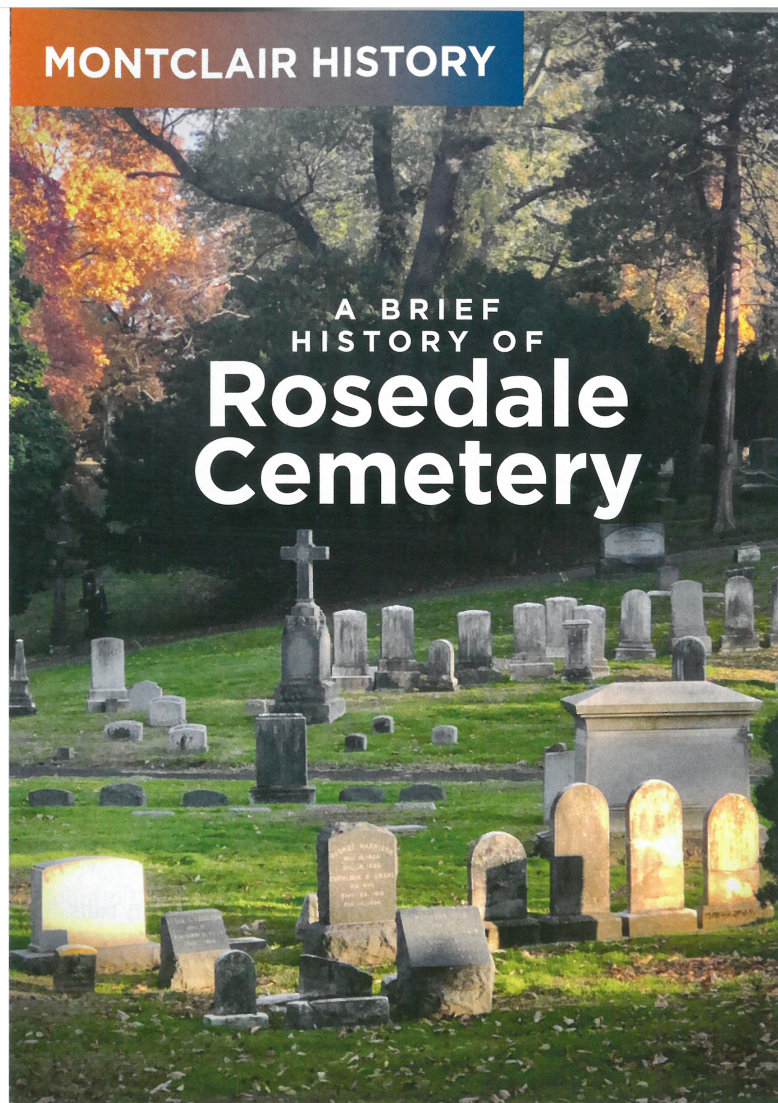
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St. Vincent's (Hospital) Auxiliary. She participated in or "chaired" just about every one of their events and fundraisers and was the recipient of their Humanitarian Award in 1970. St. Vincent's Hospital was on Elm St. It closed as a hospital in 1982 and became a senior care facility. In late 2000 the facility closed in Montclair and moved to Cedar Grove. The buildings have been torn down. The site is now the playground for the Charles Bullock School. In 1973 the Tietjes moved to Locust Dr. and a new family moved into our featured house.

The new family was headed by John C. and Irene Trackman. John was born in Poland. He became the president of the American branch of Brown Boveri, a Swiss engineering firm who had their headquarters and a manufacturing facility in North Brunswick, NJ. Brown Boveri manufactures large industrial equipment like turbine generators and melting furnaces. John was also a director of the National Bank of New Jersey. John and Irene were consistent donors to Mountainside Hospital and were considered "Friends" of the hospital. Irene was involved with Alliance Francaise of Montclair, becoming vice president in 1973. She hosted a scholarship benefit for the Alliance at our featured house the day after she became VP. She hadn't been in our featured house that long either. She loved to show French movies at our featured house and at her old house on South Brookwood Dr. The Trackmans lived in our featured house until the mid 1990s. ■

If you'd like to see more images of Montclair homes, they are featured in the book, *Stately Homes of Montclair*, which can be found at Montclair Booksellers, several local libraries and the Stately Homes of Montclair Facebook page.



## A BRIEF HISTORY OF Rosedale Cemetery

CONTRIBUTED BY JERIN BENZ, COLLECTIONS MANAGER, MONTCLAIR HISTORY CENTER

**O**CTOBER IS THE PERFECT time to visit your local cemetery- the cool weather, the leaves falling, and the sense of macabre that comes this time of year. So it seems only fitting to delve into the history of Rosedale Cemetery, located at 408 Orange Road.

### THE HISTORY OF CEMETERIES

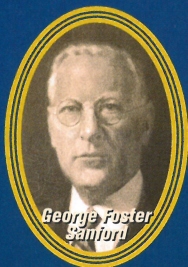
Initially, the deceased were buried either in family plots on their land or in the land surrounding their local church. As the population exploded and churchyards became increasingly over-populated, local citizens would often blame the churchyard cemeteries as the reason for locals becoming sick. Forward thinking citizens began to design new burial grounds, not under the auspices of the church but under a Board of Trustees, creating a quasi-business. To lend legitimacy, prominent citizens would often sit on the board.

This eventually led to the Rural Cemetery Movement - the idea to make cemeteries tidier than churchyards by implementing a grid system, serpentine roads, secondary paths, and landscapes. These would ultimately have more family plots than individual gravestones.

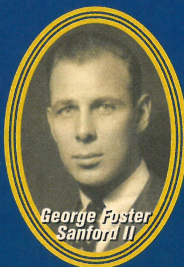
Finally, a new kind of cemetery was established: the Lawn Park Cemetery. After the Civil War as rural cemeteries started to appear haphazard and the towns they had initially been set away from began to encroach, cemeteries looked for better ways to maintain their grounds. The new cemeteries were more landscape driven, with fewer secondary paths and a more pastoral setting.

The cemeteries themselves began to take over the role of maintaining the graves, a role initially done by the families.

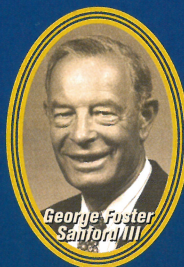
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