

Plaques, Monuments and Lighting for the Historic Chestnut Lodge Site

2-18-2009

Historic Area Plaque 1

Bronze HP-1

Chestnut Lodge Historic Site

The **Chestnut Lodge Historic Site** consists of the **Woodlawn Hotel, Stable and Ice House** (1887-1889); **Little Lodge** (1929); **Frieda's Cottage** (1936); and eight acres of forested lawn. The Woodlawn Hotel is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and the entire site is located within Rockville's West Montgomery Historic District.

The Woodlawn was built as a summer hotel soon after the railroad line came to Rockville. Dr. Ernest Bullard purchased the hotel at auction in 1908 and opened Chestnut Lodge Sanitarium in 1910. The Sanitarium became one of the most preeminent private mental health facilities in the world. It closed in 2001.

For further information visit www.peerlessrockville.org

593 characters: 12 X 20:

Historic Area Plaque 2

Bronze HP-2

Woodlawn Hotel - Chestnut Lodge Sanitarium

The **Woodlawn Hotel** was Rockville's largest and grandest summer resort hotel. The Woodlawn is designed in the Second Empire style and is rich in detail. The structure survives with its exterior largely intact. Accessory buildings on the grounds once included the Ice House, Stable, windmill, pump house, and laundry.

In 1910, Dr. Ernest Bullard, a psychiatrist from Milwaukee, Wisconsin converted the hotel to **Chestnut Lodge Sanitarium**. By the 1940s, Chestnut Lodge was a nationally renowned institution. Restoration and rehabilitation of the main building at Chestnut Lodge was undertaken in 2010.

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Historic Area Plaque 3

Bronze HP-3

Little Lodge, Upper Cottage, Stable, & Ice House

At one time, a grouping of four buildings could be seen from this vantage point.

Little Lodge was constructed in 1929 as the home of Dexter and Anne Bullard, the second generation owners and directors of Chestnut Lodge. Designed in the Tudor Revival style, Little Lodge appears originally as constructed except for a rear kitchen addition and second-story French doors.

Upper Cottage was originally built as a dormitory for student nurses and stood on this site from 1942 until 2007.

The original **Stable** was later converted to a dairy barn for Chestnut Lodge Sanitarium. The building was reconstructed in 2010 to its 1959 character.

The **Ice House** that served the Woodlawn Hotel was made obsolete by commercial ice sales. A vestibule was added in the 1920s and the building was used as a music room for the Chestnut Lodge Sanitarium. In 2010, the Ice House was reconstructed using some of the original materials.

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Historic Area Plaque 4

Bronze HP-4

Rose Hill Mansion, Barn, Creamery, & Grape Arbor

These farm structures, along with the 1830s house, are reminders of Rose Hill farm. The dairy **Barn** is a simple post and beam structure with mortise and tenon joinery, sheathed with rough sawn board-and-batten siding. The adjacent **Creamery**, only 15 feet square, was added to keep the milk clean and fresh. The **Grape Arbor** represents early vine cultivation. Before the Civil War, Catawba grapes were grown here for wine, juice, jam, and jelly. These structures, along with the Rose Hill Mansion, comprise the Rose Hill Farm Historic District.

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Historical Area Plaque 6

Bronze HP-6

Tree Preservation Area

Welcome to Chestnut Lodge. This area, while not a public park, is an integral part of the West Montgomery Avenue Historic District. It is owned and maintained by the Chestnut Lodge Homeowners Association for the enjoyment of all as passive open space. Please admire its beauty and enjoy the tranquil nature of the setting. We ask that you refrain from sports or games.

Thank you.

The Chestnut Lodge Homeowners Association

372 Characters: 12 X 20:

Historic Plaque Monument

