

040106R Resolution Opposing Tregaron Partnership Development in Tregaron

The Cleveland Park Citizens Association firmly opposes the Tregaron Partnership Limited's housing development proposed for the historic Tregaron Estates.

The historic Tregaron Estates, aka "The Causeway," has been a landmark in the District of Columbia since 1978 (See Landmark Case No. 77-8), before the parcel was purchased by the Tregaron Partnership Limited (14 acres) and the Washington International School (6 acres) in 1979. The landscape remains unified as a whole.

The Tregaron Estates was designed by renowned American architect Charles Platt and renowned landscape architect, Ellen Biddle Shipman. Their collaboration resulted in a historic landscape that remains intact with its natural woodlands, grassy green spaces, stonework, paths, bridges and historical mansion. Platt's original design concept is that the buildings and grounds be read as a single unit.

The Tregaron Estates is an important historic landmark, one of great significance in historic Cleveland Park, the District of Columbia and nationally.

The planned-unit development proposed by Tregaron Partnership Limited does not meet the legal criteria of the preservation law as it does not enhance the historic landmark. The housing development is inconsistent with the preservation law as it will fill most of the planned open green meadows with roads, garages and houses. These same roads and houses will surround the historic mansion, thereby damaging, not enhancing its historical integrity. In addition, the proposed residential project would require the cutting of many trees, destroying the natural woodland setting.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cleveland Park Citizens Association strongly recommends that the HPRB deny the Tregaron Partnership's application.