

*Wood door  
designed  
by Tuttle  
in 1927.*

# Architect BLOODGOOD TUTTLE

Bloodgood Tuttle, one of many Shaker Heights architects who has contributed to the City's diverse heritage, designed 36 homes in Shaker Heights, including two groups of "demonstration homes" for the Van Sweringen Company. These homes were commissioned to demonstrate the type, style and quality of homes appropriate to early Shaker Heights. "Built of stucco, brick, stone, wood, slate and copper variously used; they are planned for their locations and set the standard for developments of their neighborhoods." The homes were promoted through a series of advertisements in Cleveland magazines.

Tuttle's "demonstration homes" were constructed in 1924 and were located on Van Aken Blvd.--one group of five near Southington Road and the other group of four near Parkland Drive.

Another Shaker home featured in a 1928 issue of Arts & Decoration magazine was Tuttle's Shaker Village "Ship House" on Falmouth Road. The living room was designed around a 90 gun ship-of-the-line which measured 44 inches high from keel to mast tip.

Tuttle was also a great believer in "renovization". In 1933 he told the Building Construction Institute that "ninety percent of all buildings in Cleveland should either be razed or renovized, and such renovization should be thorough and complete, not mere 'paint-pot renovizing'."

Tuttle discussed the stages of "effecting the modernization of a Victorian atrocity" in a 1936 periodical, Pencil Points. He described the house in question as "a very Mae West house. It is so full of curves and wiggles--but it doesn't say 'come up and see me' --just the opposite. It repels. Then there is the roof. I never did understand why the builders in the Nineties put cast iron fences on the top of their

roofs. So, off comes the roof and in its place we put a simple roof with simple dormers and a simple Colonial Cornice."

Tuttle finished his article "To Stimulate Renovization" by suggesting some changes to the front porch.

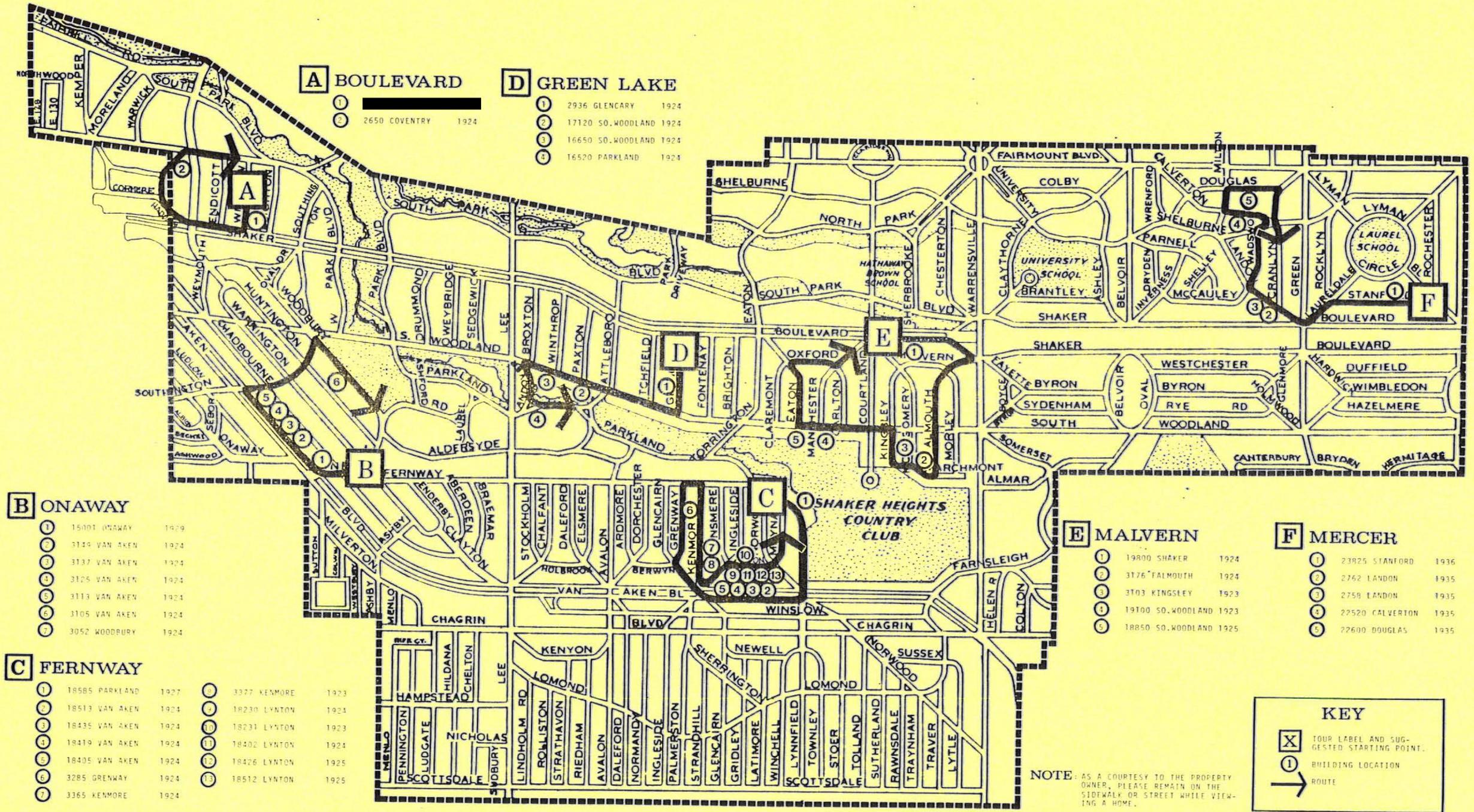
" Perhaps it was all right back in those more leisurely days but times have changed. These are automobile days, and we want a porch or terrace away from the noise and gasoline fumes and looking into the peace and quiet of the garden. And so vanishes the old porch, leaving the house calm and sedate, stripped of all its gingerbread."

Little is known about Tuttle's life. He was born in 1880 and died about 1936 in Cleveland. He was a member of the Beaux Arts Society of Architecture and the Cleveland Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. In addition to homes, he designed the Kreiger Office Building in Cleveland and Court House in Midland, Michigan.

## Walking Tours

The Self-Guided Walking Tours are designed to provide a look at Bloodgood Tuttle's work in Shaker Heights. They cover all three major traditional styles. Look for symmetry, simple forms, shallow gabled, gambrel, or hipped roofs, siding, fieldstone or brick on Colonials. English design emphasizes asymmetry, has a variety of windows, steep gables and more stone, stucco, and brick tapestry work. French homes typically have brick or stucco painted in light colors with steep hip roofs and romantic elements such as turrets.

Each neighborhood tour has a suggested starting point, but is laid out in a loop so that one may start at any point within a route. You may choose one or two to walk, or many to bicycle. This is a tour of exteriors only; so as a courtesy to the property owner, please remain on the sidewalk or street when viewing a home.



# Nearhood Walking Tours A Look at Architectural Designs by Bloodgood Tuttle in Shaker Heights