

*A walking tour celebrating Tenafly's role  
in the fight for women's voting rights*

A Tour With  
**ELIZABETH  
CADY STANTON &  
SUSAN B. ANTHONY**  
in Tenafly, New Jersey



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A Walking Tour of Local Sites  
Celebrating the Historic Fight for  
Women's Voting Rights



## Tenafly Historic Preservation Commission

Established in 1988, the Tenafly Historic Preservation Commission (THPC) identifies and protects Tenafly's architectural and historic legacy, and promotes public interest in the Borough's treasured landmarks.

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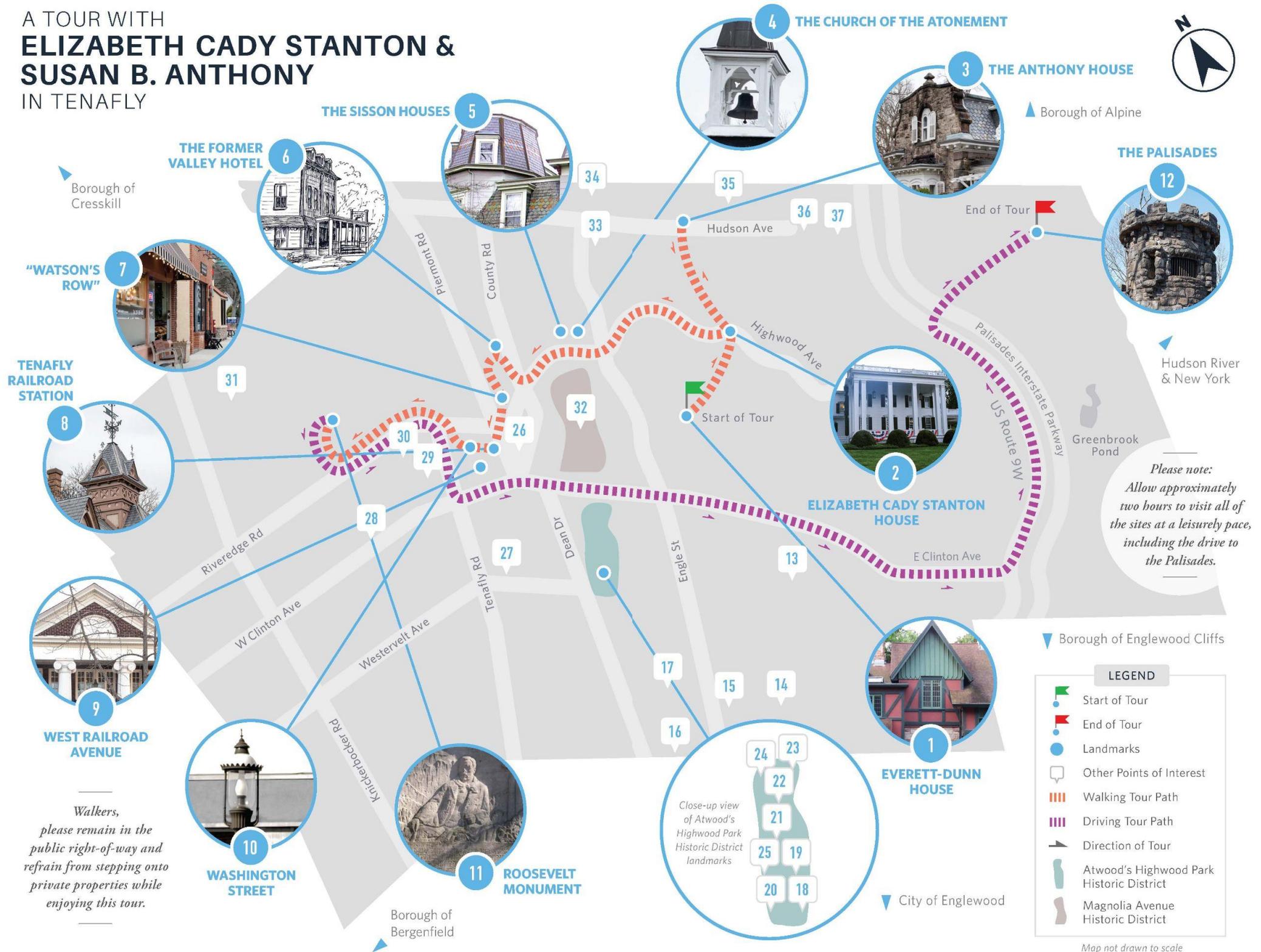
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Additional information about the THPC, including guidelines  
and best practices for the renovation of older homes,  
can be found on the Borough website at:  
<https://www.tenaflynj.org/281/Historic-Preservation-Commission>

# A TOUR WITH ELIZABETH CADY STANTON & SUSAN B. ANTHONY IN TENAFLY



▲ Borough of Alpine

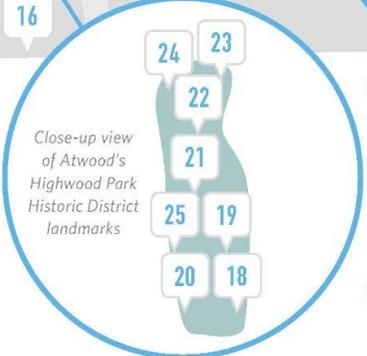
▲ Borough of Cresskill

▲ Hudson River & New York

▼ Borough of Englewood Cliffs

▼ City of Englewood

▲ Borough of Bergenfield



Map not drawn to scale

## 1 EVERETT-DUNN HOUSE

20 FOREST ROAD BETWEEN ENGLE & PARK STREETS



The Everett-Dunn House, built in 1867, was designed by American architect Richard Morris Hunt in the Swiss Chalet style popular at the time. Inventor and businessman Charles J. Everett lived here and was described by his neighbor, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, as "one of our leading citizens" <sup>1</sup>.

When Stanton attempted to vote in Tenaflly in the November 2, 1880 election, Everett is said to have driven her to the polling station at the Valley Hotel on County Road in a carriage decorated for the election. Everett introduced her to the inspectors at the poll saying, "Mrs. Stanton is here, gentlemen, for the purpose of voting. As she is a taxpayer, of sound mind, and of legal age, I see no reason why she should not exercise this right of citizenship" <sup>2</sup>. Nevertheless, Stanton was denied the right to vote because of her gender; women were not allowed to vote in federal and most state elections in 1880. This event will be discussed again later in the tour at the site of the former Valley Hotel.

Previously a village within Palisade Township, Tenaflly became a Borough in 1894 and Charles Everett was made its first Tax Assessor.

Richard Morris Hunt went on to design the pedestal for the Statue of Liberty (1875); the Breakers in Newport, Rhode Island (1893); the Biltmore Estate in Asheville, North Carolina; and was one of the early organizers of the American Institute of Architects.

This house became the home of artist Harvey Dunn following World War I. Dunn grew up in South Dakota, moved east for art school where he became part of the Brandywine School of artists, and later opened a commercial illustration business in Leonia, New Jersey. During World War I, he served in Europe with the US Army Combat Art program to record a visual history of the war. Dunn then moved here, taught in a studio at what was the back of the property, and became a prodigious painter, especially of the American West. Award-winning jazz guitarist George Benson lived here during the late 1970s.

*From here, you will walk along Park Street to where it meets Highwood Avenue.*

## 2 ELIZABETH CADY STANTON HOUSE

135 HIGHWOOD AVENUE AT PARK STREET



### BACKGROUND

In 1840, while on her honeymoon, Stanton attended an anti-slavery convention in London with her husband, Henry Brewster Stanton, Jr. She observed that the convention's rules discriminated against female delegates whom she met there, including Quaker minister Lucretia Coffin Mott. Stanton was deeply affected by the ideas of Mott which intensified Stanton's liberal beliefs. Eight years later, Stanton joined Mott and other advocates to organize, in Seneca Falls, New York, the first convention calling for women to secure for themselves their sacred right to vote. In 1851, Elizabeth Cady Stanton met Susan B. Anthony of Rochester, New York, who would become her closest ally and writing partner as they worked together here in Tenaflly and across the country.

With an inheritance, Stanton signed a deed in 1868 to buy this property in her own name <sup>3</sup>. She stayed at the Highwood Park Hotel (later consumed by fire in 1873) on Magnolia Avenue to supervise the construction of the house further uphill on Highwood Avenue <sup>4</sup>. By October 1868, Stanton and Anthony had established a newspaper called *The Revolution* in which Stanton protested by writing that New York's laws were ahead of New Jersey's by putting women on a more equal status with men in the areas of property rights, inheritance, separation and child custody.

Stanton and her husband Henry now had two daughters and five sons ranging in age from 9 to 26. Because their home was near the local railroad line recently established in 1859, it was convenient for the family and frequent guests to get to and from the city. Henry Stanton had an office with living quarters in Manhattan where he worked for the newspaper *The Sun*, and Stanton was already well into her career as a public advocate and ardent champion of women's rights, writing, traveling and speaking on behalf of the still nascent movement.

However, by 1869, the movement for women's suffrage was sharply divided over support for the proposed 15<sup>th</sup> Amendment which Stanton opposed on the grounds that it did not include women, whatever their race.<sup>5</sup> Stanton's longtime friend and ally Frederick Douglass argued against Stanton's position and her racially offensive language. In 1870, the 15<sup>th</sup> Amendment was ratified giving Black men the right to vote. Ultimately, the two factions of the women's suffrage movement did reconcile. Stanton and Anthony (and Douglass) recommitted themselves to fighting for the right of all women to vote, an achievement they would ultimately not live to see.

### THE HISTORY OF WOMAN SUFFRAGE

It was here in her home that Stanton worked with Susan B. Anthony and Matilda Joslyn Gage of Fayetteville, New York to write the first three volumes of *The History of Woman Suffrage*. Stanton, a gifted thinker and speechwriter, was the primary author with Gage; Anthony was a skilled organizer, strategist and business manager. Both Stanton and Anthony had long made the project their ambition since most writers and journalists in those days were male and could not be counted on for fair reporting of the subject. The series of books, eventually totalling 2,738 pages and six volumes, became the most comprehensive and reliable record of the movement for women's rights.

Anthony started the project in 1876 by sending boxes of documents and artifacts to Tenafly. She recalled working at a table opposite Stanton in the tower room (no longer in existence). For Volume III, they also worked in the front room at the right of the porte cochère. The women would take breaks walking outside on the grounds of the three-acre property and around the neighborhood.

The original expectation was that the project might last months but as the materials continued to grow, months turned into years. Stanton felt that the project had turned into "a struggle for 40 years, as long as the children of Israel were in the wilderness"<sup>6</sup>. One volume turned into three, and included documented history, biographies, chronologies, letters, and commentary about the suffrage movement. When the first volume was finally published in 1881, Anthony could not say how relieved she was that it was done. Stanton acknowledged that she welcomed the 871-page Volume I with the same feelings of love and tenderness as she had for her first-born child<sup>7</sup>.

Anthony herself paid for the printing of the first three volumes. The books came in leather at \$15 per set and in red cloth at \$12 per set<sup>8</sup>. Fortunately, a bequest enabled her to pay for the printing, with many sets donated to libraries and presented to dignitaries. Later volumes five, six and seven were authored by Anthony and journalist Ida Husted Harper.

### DAILY LIFE IN TENAFLY

Stanton loved this house and its setting "on the blue hills of Jersey"<sup>9</sup>. She "so dearly loved" the grand trees, the gorgeous sunsets and twinkling fireflies<sup>10</sup>. She admitted that her evergreens and tall, prim cedars, when covered with snow, were so exquisite that they brought tears to her eyes<sup>11</sup>. The house at that time was built in the Second Empire style with a long piazza, with the doors and windows encased in netting for protection against mosquitoes. Inside the house was a bay window and a hearth around which the children of all ages danced<sup>12</sup>.

Stanton and Anthony worked incessantly for women's causes here in, and from, Tenafly by writing, organizing, speaking, and traveling. On one unexpected occasion, Stanton held an impromptu dinner party when four suffragists, returning from a Boston convention, all met by chance under her roof. Stanton wrote that she was unprepared, as her day had just seen the installation of a new stove. "[I] tried to be as brilliant as possible in conversation; discussing Nirvana, Karma, reincarnation, and thus turning attention from the evanescent things of earth to the joys of a life to come – not an easy feat to perform with strong minded women, – but, in parting, they seemed happy and refreshed, and all promised to come again"<sup>13</sup>.

Stanton's spare time in Tenafly, if she had any, was given to "social festivities ...[t]he inevitable dinners, teas, picnics, and dances with country neighbors"<sup>14</sup>. She became friends with Mary England, whose husband was an owner of *The Sun* newspaper for which Henry Stanton worked. The Englands lived near Ridgewood. With equal zest, Stanton and Mary England joined in their children's games of blind man's bluff, fox and geese, and bean bags<sup>15</sup>. Mary's children made a visit to Stanton's house for seven days even though Anthony was also there. With so many houseguests, Anthony and Stanton made no progress that week in the writing of *The History of Woman Suffrage*<sup>16</sup>.

This house was the site of celebrations such as the wedding of Stanton's daughter, Margaret, who was married with due formality in the garden. Stanton later recalled an amusing incident when the family's immense St. Bernard dog, Bruno, unexpectedly joined the ceremony behind the bridal couple<sup>17</sup>.

On another occasion, the Stanton boys, "in search of employment," broke up a hornets' nest in the yard. Seeing the boys jumping around, Bruno thought he would join in the fun. Completely covered with hornets, the dog went howling back to the kitchen where the girls were making preserves and ironing. Upon sight of the hornets, they dropped jars, spoons, and irons, and came rushing out of doors screaming. Relief followed at last when the hose was turned on the dog's thick hair, and towels and branches were swung at the hornets. But for days later, if Bruno heard anything buzz, he would rush to the house at top speed<sup>18</sup>.



In her diaries, Stanton recounted how she liked to advise her sons that, when marrying, they should choose a woman with a spine and sound teeth in that the teeth would show the condition of the bones in the rest of the body. Stanton described how a young man came to the house to "put up the stoves for the winter" [sic], and mentioned that he was thinking of getting married. Stanton without hesitation repeated her advice. He turned to her looking surprised, and with stove pipe in hand, asked, "Do they ever come without spines?"<sup>19</sup>.

Stanton continued to own this house in Tenafly until 1887, when she returned from a long stay in Europe and moved to Manhattan where she died in 1902.

#### RECENT YEARS

The house has not always looked the way it does now. In Stanton's time, it appeared as a Second Empire house with mansard roof and tower. Later owners removed the tower and added the Greek Revival porch you now see and the porte-cochère entrance on the south side. Current and previous owners have undertaken comprehensive restoration projects with the most recent winning a 2019 Bergen County Historic Preservation award. The property is a National Historic Landmark on the National Register of Historic Places; is listed on the state and local registries of historic landmarks, and on the New Jersey Women's Heritage Trail; however, it continues to serve as a private residence and is not open to the public.

*You may now walk north on Park Street to the end of the block to see the Anthony House at 177 Hudson Avenue. Because of its proximity, Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton likely passed here on some of their frequent walks<sup>20</sup>.*

### 3 THE ANTHONY HOUSE

177 HUDSON AVENUE



This Second Empire-style house is an excellent example of the "country estate" phase of Tenafly's history in the 19th and early 20th centuries, when a new railroad line had reached Tenafly and for the first time it was possible to take a train directly from the city to towns in the Northern Valley.

Wealthy New Yorkers and Brooklynites built handsome houses on spacious grounds or "gentleman farms" in Tenafly and the surrounding area. At one time, this house sat on 16 acres of what was one of the town's last farms, a dairy known as the Bonny Dell Farm.

*This house was owned for several decades in the late 1800's by a family named "Anthony," however, these Anthonys were no relation to Susan B. Anthony.*



*Return back along Park Street to the Stanton House and then turn right to walk downhill on Highwood Avenue, much as Stanton herself would have walked into town.*

## 4 THE CHURCH OF THE ATONEMENT

97 HIGHWOOD AVENUE

This Episcopal church dates to 1868 and was here when Stanton or Anthony went down to the village or train station. Their diaries report that if they argued while working, the women would walk arm in arm past here down the hill, return and resume working as if they had never argued <sup>21</sup>.

Stanton, however, did not like the solemn, tolling bell of this church during Lent and opined that church bells in general were an outdated nuisance <sup>22</sup>. She also took offense that as part of the marriage rites of formal religion, brides vowed to "obey" their husbands.



The land and various religious articles were donated to the church by Jane Leigh Swift and Mary Helena Mahan, granddaughters of Sir James Jay, a controversial Revolutionary War figure <sup>23</sup>. The donated land was originally part of the vast acreage in Tenafly inherited by Sir James Jay that stretched from the Tenakill Brook to the Hudson River.

Sir James was the older brother of John Jay, the first Chief Justice of the United States and grandson of Jacobus Van Cortlandt, the Dutch American merchant and politician who served as the 30th and 33rd Mayor of New York City <sup>24</sup>.

Mahan's husband, Dennis, was a noted military theorist and professor at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. Their son, Rear Admiral Albert Thayer Mahan, became the most renowned naval strategist of the nineteenth century.

Noted members and supporters of this church were the Sisson families who lived in the two houses next door. They maintained a family burial vault at the rear of their homes; the remains within were later relocated to an impressive mausoleum in Brookside Cemetery, Englewood.

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*From here, walk downhill along Highwood Avenue to view the neighboring houses next to the church.*

## 5 THE SISSON HOUSES

89 & 93 HIGHWOOD AVENUE



These two private homes bespeak much about the friendship between the Sissons, Stanton, and Anthony. Charles G. Sisson was a self-made man who saved the Northern Railroad of New Jersey by buying shares and then successfully operating it as President. At the time, Sisson was reported to be one of the wealthiest men in the state of New Jersey <sup>25</sup>. These two houses were built between 1867 and 1874 in the Second Empire Style, one for Sisson's own family and the second for his son and his family.

Sisson's daughter, Eva Sisson Browning, and her husband, John Hull Browning, moved to their own estate south of East Clinton Avenue and east of Engle Street in Tenafly. Eva founded the Rethmore Home on Tenafly Road to assist children from New York. In 1886, the couple organized a lavish wedding in Tenafly for Eva's sister, Lizzie B. Sisson. Special trains brought guests to and from the village. Carpenters constructed temporary facilities for the occasion. Per the local custom, bridal gifts were mentioned in the local newspaper: the groom gave the bride a multi-carat diamond necklace; the local lawyer judge Ashbel Green gave a silver gravy boat; a Mrs. Savant gave a set of salt spoons, and Mrs. E. C. Stanton gave a three-volume set of *The History of Woman Suffrage*.

The Sissons are also mentioned in Susan B. Anthony's diary where she noted that on October 16, 1870, she worked with Stanton until 3 p.m. followed by dinner. Stanton then started for a trip to Washington, DC at 5 p.m. with "Mr. Sisson" taking her by carriage the 20 miles to Jersey City to catch a "Nighttime Express". Stanton was scheduled to make a speech in Washington on marriage and divorce. Anthony stayed in Tenafly with Stanton's daughter, "Hattie" (Harriot), and Anthony's diary mentions that she walked with her before returning for sleep "perfectly tired out" <sup>26</sup>.

During World War II, the local headquarters of the Red Cross was located at 89 Highwood; here, it is said, volunteers sewed bandages for the wounded soldiers recuperating at local hospitals.

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*From here, please continue walking down Highwood Avenue; cross the intersection at County Road and turn right to find the blue marker for the next location.*

## 6 SITE OF THE FORMER VALLEY HOTEL

87 COUNTY ROAD

On November 2, 1880, Elizabeth Cady Stanton attempted to vote at the polling station in the Valley Hotel which stood at this location for many years. After being refused by the officials manning the poll, Stanton wrote to her son, Theodore: *"The Republican wagon and horses all decked with flags and evergreens, came for the male part of the household. I told the driver that my legal representatives were all absent, but I would go down and vote. Anthony went with me and we had great fun frightening and muddling these old Dutch inspectors. The whole town is agape with my act. A friend says that he never saw Tenafly in such excitement. The men have taken sides about equally. This evening, when Anthony and I went down for the mail, the post-man said he would give five dollars for that ticket that I proffered; he would have it framed and put up in his house. I have sent a full description of the affair to the press....I am tired after holding that ballot so long and arguing with the judges of elections"*<sup>27</sup>.



The authenticity of this letter has been the subject of some debate by historians since it is known that after her death, Stanton's children Theodore and Harriot published a revised compilation of their mother's letters. However, the events and comments as reported by the Stanton children include details substantially similar to other historical accounts of that critical event which happened in Tenafly during the 1880 election<sup>28</sup>.

A farmer who has been identified as a judge of elections denying Stanton the right to vote here was Cornelius S. Cooper. He lived in Schraalenburgh (Bergenfield) and had been elected State Senator for the district in 1877. Born in New Milford, New Jersey, he traced the arrival of his family in America to 1647 from Permerend, Holland near the Zuyder Zee<sup>29</sup>.

*From here please walk back towards the intersection, turn right and walk along Highwood Avenue, stopping at the storefronts.*

## 7 "WATSON'S ROW"

APPROX 33 - 39 HIGHWOOD AVENUE

Among six shops once located along Highwood Avenue was that of a shoemaker, John Watson. Watson, a master craftsman, made boots and shoes for Stanton's "difficult" feet. Even after she moved to New York, Stanton continued to patronize Tenafly businesses, contacting shoemaker Watson by letter in May 1888 requesting that he come to the city to measure her feet<sup>30</sup>. She had recently returned by ship from a trip to England and still wanted shoes from Watson. Quite an endorsement of a local business!

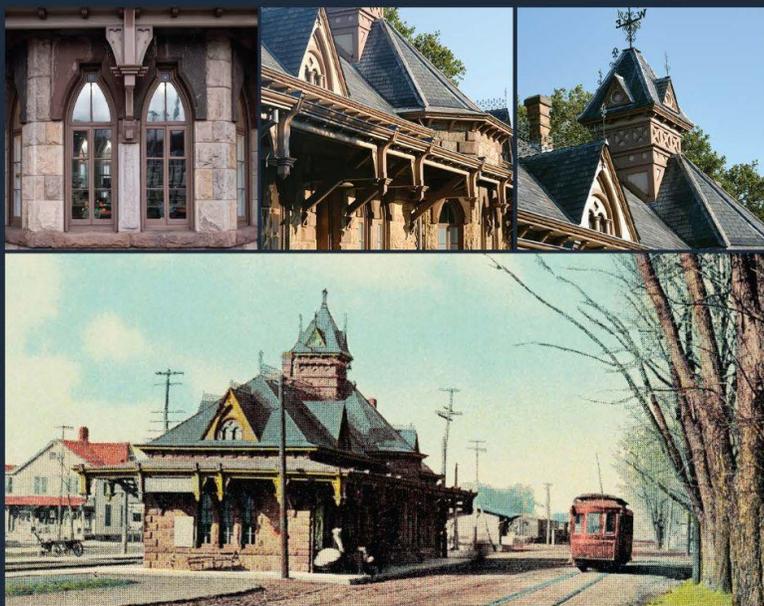
During Stanton's time, at the intersection of Highwood, Piermont and Jay Streets at what is now One Highwood Avenue, there was a general store owned by Colonel Abraham Garrison Demarest. If you look carefully, you can still see the gables and dormer windows of the original building. Colonel Demarest commanded an army regiment from this area in the Civil War. His descendants, some of whom bear the last name of Swift, have lived in Tenafly ever since.



*Please continue walking into town to the Tenafly Railroad Station.*

## 8 TENAFLY RAILROAD STATION

1 PIERMONT ROAD



Tenafly Railroad Station would have been used by Stanton and Anthony when departing and returning from their numerous trips around the country fighting for women's suffrage. Today the station boasts a stylish cafe, with orders delivered from the same ticket window where the suffragists once bought their train fares.

Stanton, Anthony and Gage stood appalled by the amounts of mail arriving here for them from across the country<sup>31</sup>.

The station, Tenafly's signature building, is listed on the National and State Registers for Historic Places and as such is protected by federal and state historic preservation law. The current building, which replaced an earlier wooden depot, was designed in 1872 by noted architect Daniel Topping Atwood (1836-1919), famous for his published "pattern" books. Examples of his designs can be seen in homes located within Tenafly's Atwood's Highwood Park Historic District.

The Station's use as a railroad stop declined after the opening of the George Washington Bridge in 1931 and then ceased in 1966 when the Northern Branch line was discontinued. The building was eventually bought by the Borough and leased for commercial use.

Please walk to the railroad tracks and look across to the iconic storefronts of West Railroad Avenue.

## 9 WEST RAILROAD AVENUE

SITE OF A PRE-ELECTION RALLY



West Railroad Avenue has long been an integral part of Tenafly's historic center. In Stanton's time, the land along West Railroad Avenue was owned by Daniel Topping Atwood and later by the Browning family. Deeds indicate the existence of a "Carpenter's Shop Lot" which included at least three buildings, one of which was a carpenter's shop. Many of the current buildings now lining West Railroad Avenue date to the early 20th century and were present here at the time of the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment in 1920.

Stanton's diary and letters record an incident in 1876 which captured local imagination: "*Just before Election Day we had a great Republican gathering one evening in Johnson's carpenter shop. Tenafly was out in force. Guns were fired and bands played. The milkman inopportunely drove into town, and his horse, unaccustomed to such hilarity among these Dutch farmers, ran away, breaking the cart and harness into more pieces than the Republican party in this vicinity can boast members*"<sup>32</sup>.

In 1916, several lots along West Railroad Avenue were bought by Isaac Sabin, whose descendants still owned some of the property a century later. Isaac Sabin's father, Tenafly resident Israel Sabin, was one of the earliest trustees of a synagogue in Englewood, the first erected in Bergen County<sup>33</sup>.

Walk to the north end of Tenafly Railroad Station and down along Washington Street, stopping mid-block to look for vintage roof lines and evidence of "Old Tenafly".

## 10 WASHINGTON STREET

SITE OF FAVORITE STATIONERY STORE

As the local village grew with estates and country homes dotting the valley and hillsides, Washington Street in the late 19th century was occupied by businesses providing supplies and services. Historic records show that the street included a general store with residents living upstairs, a stable, and a few other businesses.

Stanton writes in 1871 of an amusing dilemma: as a prolific correspondent with people across the country, Stanton needed new stationery and describes how she sent a young Irish boy, "my Son of Erin," to go down to the village to buy envelopes. Finding no ordinary envelopes, the young man picked out three packages, all with little birds billing and cooing on the flaps. Perhaps the lad had expected Stanton to be pleasantly surprised by his choice, however, Stanton writes that she had intended to send out a "staid" letter about women's rights with equally serious envelopes. To her credit, she just laughed and writes that she let her letter "fly" to persons around the country in these envelopes<sup>34</sup>.



*From here you may continue walking to the end of Washington Street, turning right for one block to The Roosevelt Common and the Roosevelt Monument, making a final connection to the story of Stanton and Anthony in Tenaflly.*

## 11 ROOSEVELT MONUMENT

AT THE ROOSEVELT COMMON ON RIVEREDGE ROAD



The limestone monument at Roosevelt Common honors the 26<sup>th</sup> President, celebrating his accomplishments as a conservationist and an early supporter of the National Park system. The Monument's panels depict Roosevelt on one side and Yosemite Valley on the reverse. They were carved by Trygve Hammer, a protege of Gutzom Borglum, the sculptor of Mount Rushmore in South Dakota and public works in Newark, New Jersey.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton was no longer alive when this monument in Tenaflly was erected in 1924. However, even in her later years, she had continued to fight for the right to vote, writing to President Roosevelt shortly before her death, requesting he act more decisively to achieve women's suffrage.

On October 26, 1902, Stanton died quietly at age 86 at her home at 250 West 94th Street in Manhattan with two of her children at her side. She had still been writing articles and letters in the previous week. Anthony passed four years later in 1906, also at age 86, at her home in Rochester, New York. The 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution acknowledging the right of women to vote was not adopted until 1920.

Roosevelt Common was designed by Marjorie Sewell Cautley (1891-1954), pioneering American landscape architect. Cautley designed this Common seeking to transform natural open space with native plantings and recreational spaces such as the skating pond. She later applied her expertise to the design of Radburn in Fair Lawn, New Jersey, one of the first planned communities in the country.

The monument and the original 30 acres that became the Common were donated by Malcolm Mackay, his wife Helen Raynor Mackay, and his sister Jennie L. Mackay. Jennie loved to relax in the Common and kept a protective count of its trees.

*This ends the walking portion of the tour. By car, you may visit two other sites within the Palisades Interstate Park: Greenbrook Sanctuary in Tenaflly and the Women's Federation Monument in Alpine. The gated Sanctuary is 1/2 mile north of the Route 9W and East Clinton Avenue intersection. It is open to members only of the Palisades Nature Association and their guests ([njpalisades.org/greenbrook](http://njpalisades.org/greenbrook)). The Women's Federation Monument is approximately five miles north on Route 9W at mile marker 9.5. It is accessible by parking on the shoulder, then walking across the overpass above the Palisades Parkway. Follow signage and a short trail to the cliffs and the Monument.*

## 12 THE PALISADES

ROUTE 9W IN TENAFLY AND ALPINE



Stanton and Anthony wrote in their diaries about how they enjoyed outings to the Palisades which, like now, provided a chance to enjoy nature and views of the Hudson River. On May 4, 1873, Anthony recorded in her diary that Tenafly was having a "beautiful" day, and so, after doing some writing, she rode out onto the Palisades<sup>35</sup>. When Temperance leader Frances Willard visited Stanton's home in Tenafly, Stanton took her to the Palisades to see "one of the most magnificent views we have yet seen"<sup>36</sup>.

Stanton likely visited the Palisades at what is now the private Greenbrook Sanctuary, founded in 1946. It is a 165-acre nature preserve with forest trails and tranquil pond managed by the Palisades Nature Association.

Farther north, the Women's Federation Monument celebrates the contributions of Federation members who fought to preserve the Palisades from further destruction by stone quarrying. As a result of the Federation's efforts, legislation was passed and signed in 1900 by New York Governor Theodore Roosevelt and New Jersey Governor Foster M. Voorhees to form the Palisades Park Commission charged with acquiring the Palisades and adjacent land, and preserving the cliffs and shoreline. The Monument is a stop on the New Jersey Women's Heritage Trail which also includes Tenafly's Elizabeth Cady Stanton house and Roosevelt Common (for its association with Marjorie Sewell Cautley).

*Thank you for joining us on the tour.*

## OTHER SITES OF HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

*If you wish to explore Tenafly further, please refer to the map for the locations of the additional historic sites listed in this section.*

### 13 LYMAN-BROWNING ESTATE COTTAGE 170 Thatcher Road



This house is a remaining structure from the 26-acre Browning Estate owned by John Hull Browning and Eva Sisson Browning. The design of the cottage was published in the 1865 pattern book, *Woodward's Country Homes*. Frequently used by builders, "pattern books" were published by architects with drawings and plans for private homes and buildings.

### 14 THE SOCIETY OF AFRICAN MISSIONS 23 Bliss Avenue



This seven-acre property features a chapel, residence and museum devoted to African sculpture and artifacts. The property was acquired by the Society of African Missions largely due to the largesse of Mother Katherine Drexel, a Philadelphia millionaire who founded a religious order committed to serving Black and Native American peoples<sup>37</sup>. A mansion previously located here was the home of Thomas Lemuel James, US Postmaster General under Presidents James Garfield and Chester Arthur. James served as Tenafly's second Mayor from 1895 to 1897. A carriage house remains from James' day.

### 15 VIRGINIA APGAR'S RESIDENCE Stonegarth Apartments at 30 Engle Street



Virginia Apgar (1909–1974) was an anesthesiologist who invented the Apgar Score to assess the health of newborn babies in order to combat infant mortality.

### 16 MOUNT CARMEL CEMETERY 10 Serpentine Road



Home to the graves of several notables including James Braddock, World Heavyweight Boxing Champion from 1935 to 1937. Braddock, who beat

## OTHER SITES OF HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

champion Max Baer and lost to champion Joe Louis, was portrayed by Russell Crowe in the 2005 movie *Cinderella Man*. Among others buried in this cemetery are George Gately Gallagher, the cartoonist who created "Heathcliff the Cat", Adelaide Forbes, the wife of Charles B.C. Forbes, publisher of *Forbes* magazine, and their son, Duncan Forbes. "B.C." himself was buried here until his surviving sons had him exhumed and reinterred in the family's ancestral churchyard in Scotland <sup>38</sup>.

### 17 COTSWOLD ESTATE One Byrne Lane and 40 Inness Road



The current mansion, which replaced an older, larger one, was built in 1925 in the English Medieval Country House style for banker Herbert Coppell and his wife, the tobacco company heiress Georgie Myers Coppell. The original estate gates remain on Engle Street at Inness Road. The fountain in front of the building was sculpted by Enid Bland Yandell who, in 1899, became the second woman granted membership in the National Sculpture Society, founded by Augustus Saint-Gaudens and Richard Morris Hunt.

The mansion was converted to ten luxury apartments in 1934. During World War II, bandleader Glenn Miller resided here with his wife Helen and two children. Sadly, on Christmas Eve 1944, Helen was informed of the disappearance of her husband's military plane over the English Channel.

### 18 DAVIS-JOHNSON PARK Engle Street and Westervelt Avenue



Davis-Johnson Park is the gift of Alliene Davis-Johnson, who died in 1960 leaving her home and property to the Borough on the condition that the town demolish the mansion and create a park. Her father George W. Davis was a friend of Frances Hodgson Burnett, author of *The Secret Garden*. A walled rose garden is now maintained here. The Park features a dazzling collection of trees, shrubs, flowers, and statues of six lions, and has become a favorite location for wedding photos and summer concerts.

## OTHER SITES OF HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

### 19 ATWOOD-POND HOUSE 168 Serpentine Road



This Gothic Revival house was published as "Design One" by Daniel T. Atwood in his 1871 *Atwood's Country and Suburban Homes*. The house appears again in *Building by the Book - Pattern Architecture in New Jersey* released by Rutgers University Press in 1992 <sup>39</sup>.

The house was the home of Captain Benjamin Franklin Pond, a ship's captain who was credited with saving the lives of most of his passengers, many of whom were Mormon missionaries, when his ship, the *Julia Ann*, ran aground in the Pacific in 1855. After being marooned for five weeks, Pond and his men built a boat and rowed to Bora-Bora, 250 nautical miles away, to get help for those left behind. Pond later moved to Tenafly and opened a rubber factory. Tenafly's Franklin Street is named for the captain who has also been honored in Australia for his heroic efforts.

### 20 THE VEYSEY COTTAGE 167 Serpentine Road



Named for owner William H. Veysey, this house is depicted by noted architect Daniel Topping Atwood in his 1876 pattern book, *Modern American Homesteads*. The initial, "A" seen in the gingerbread over its porch is believed to stand for "Atwood". The style, called "Down-ingesque" or Carpenter Gothic, was popularized by Andrew Jackson Downing (1815–1852) of Newburgh, New York who favored applying the Gothic Revival and Italianate styles to wood and sided buildings. The style shows steeply arched windows, pitched roofs and steep gables. Downing favored front porches as a link to nature; is credited as the "father of American landscape architecture"; and with the earliest concept for New York's Central Park.

### 21 HENRY B. PALMER HOUSE 183 Serpentine Road



Home of Henry Bogert Palmer, Tenafly's first and third Mayor from 1894–1895 and 1897–1899; an Atwood house of very unusual design with a projecting polygonal, second story central bay and high roof <sup>40</sup>. Alternatively described as "Eclectic" style or as a "Chateau Roof Cottage".

## OTHER SITES OF HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

### 22 PAUL RICHTER HOUSE 191 Serpentine Road



This American Foursquare Colonial Revival style house was the home of the borough's first Council President, Paul Richter. Plans for the house were published by architect Fred C. Winter in 1908 and feature roughly cut stone quoins contributing to its Georgian-like symmetry, contrasting fieldstone walls, a columned porch, double doors, a cornice, and dentil molding. The letter "R" for Richter is at the curb.

### 23 201 SERPENTINE ROAD



This Eclectic style home with Gothic Revival and Italianate elements was built between 1867 and 1876 and was, at one time, part of the Huyler estate. Its front and sides visible from the street have three bays, paired windows with segmental arches, clipped gables, lace-like bargeboards, stickwork, cut-outs, pendants and arched spandrels contributing to its Victorian splendor.

### 24 THE SHERWOOD HOUSE 12 Valley Place



Architect John H. Stephens designed this Eclectic style house for Levi Sherwood which dates between 1867 and 1876. The house boasts windows of different shapes and groupings, clipped gables, semi-circular designs, a tower with vertical board and batten on its upper stage, and a mansard roof.

### 25 HIGH VICTORIAN GOTHIC REVIVAL HOUSE 3 Huyler Avenue



Daniel Topping Atwood published the design for this L-shaped house between 1873 and 1876. Its distinctive architecture features a tower with four pointed arched windows terminating in a tall "candle snuffer" roof and patterned multicolored slate roofing tiles. When new stained-glass windows were installed in modern times, an iron weight dated 1869 was uncovered giving additional evidence for dating the construction of the house.

## OTHER SITES OF HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

### 26 HUYLER PARK Piermont and County Roads at the Tenafly Railroad Station



Huyler Park is named for the Huyler family, once large landowners in the area, who donated the land adjacent to the railroad station for a town park. During the American Revolution, British and Hessian mercenaries marched past this location to capture the American fort at Fort Lee. A monument now stands at the south end of the park, dedicated to those who perished in service to our nation, including Tenafly farmer James Blauvelt DeMott who died during the Civil War near Washington DC, leaving behind a widow and young child.

During World War I, Huyler Park was the location where American soldiers exited trains and fell into ranks to march to the former Camp Merritt on Knickerbocker Road, the largest American disembarkation camp at that time at 770 acres with a capacity of 38,000 soldiers. Cresskill's monumental obelisk at Knickerbocker and Madison Avenue honors the 578 people who died at the camp during the worldwide influenza pandemic of 1918.

For many years, a trolley service ran from Huyler Park to the Palisades Amusement Park in Fort Lee. Events at Huyler Park now include solemn Memorial Day observances and summer concerts.

### 27 ROELOF WESTERVELT HOUSE 81 Westervelt Avenue



The earliest section of this Dutch brownstone house has been traced back to Roelof Westervelt in 1745; it remained with the Westervelt family until 1923. The Westervelts had received land on or near Tenafly Road in 1695, and in 1705 were required by the British proprietor to compensate the Native Americans. Roelof Westervelt was a justice and a civil servant in his 50's during the American Revolution who favored independence <sup>41</sup>.

Aaron Westervelt of Tenafly was the master builder, in 1799, of the new Dutch Reformed church (now the South Presbyterian Church) in Schraalenburgh (now Bergenfield) <sup>42</sup>. To honor Aaron's work, his infant son, Jacob, born soon afterward in 1800, was the first to be christened there <sup>43</sup>. Jacob Westervelt became a prolific shipbuilder and was elected Mayor of New York City in 1852 <sup>44</sup>.

## OTHER SITES OF HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

In the 1920's, the upper part of the house was used by the Tenafly Weavers, a training studio and small business which produced woven goods now housed in the Smithsonian Institute.

28

### DEMAREST-LYLE HOUSE 91 West Clinton Avenue



Johannes Blauvelt bought this property in about 1794 and later passed it on to his stepdaughter Catren and her husband Abraham J. Demarest. They reared seven children (born 1816–1832) on a farm here <sup>45</sup>. Abraham was satirically described in pamphlets because he was troublesome and became a cause célèbre in the histories of the Dutch Reformed churches in Bergen County <sup>46</sup>. He changed congregations without required permissions and made constitutional arguments challenging church authorities.

In 1866, the house was sold to John S. Lyle, a retired executive of the Lord & Taylor store in New York. Reflecting Tenafly's transformation from an agrarian to suburban village, Lyle changed the style of this house while building a larger fenced estate extending up the west hill to Knickerbocker Road. He married Elizabeth Newcomb and opened a camp, "Happy Land" on the south side of West Clinton Avenue for poor girls from New York City. Lyle, a widower in his 90's, next married his decades-younger nurse, Julia Hannon, and left her most of his fortune <sup>47</sup>. Not all of his first wife's family, the Newcombs, were pleased. To honor Lyle, the young widow built a bell tower (no longer standing) on the hill near West Clinton Avenue and Knickerbocker Road. Mrs. Lyle later married a man who became a member of the British Parliament; both she and her new husband Alexander Lyle-Samuel, M.P., retained the name, "Lyle," in their new hyphenated surname.

29

### ORESKO MEMORIAL GREEN Tenafly Road by the Tenafly Public Library



Dedicated in 2018, the park between the Municipal Center and Tenafly Road honors Sgt. Nicholas Oresko, a Tenafly resident and recipient of the Medal of Honor from President Harry S Truman in 1945. Having been shot in the hip after single-handedly destroying a German bunker, Oresko managed to crawl and destroy a second bunker. His award

## OTHER SITES OF HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

citation credits him with securing an advantageous position that saved numerous Allied soldiers and was key to victory for the Allies. The monument was designed by Tenafly resident and former THPC member Mario Turchi.

30

### FIREFIIGHTERS' MEMORIAL Riveredge Road at the Tenafly Fire Department



The memorial honors all Tenafly firefighters, past, present and future; the first responders who answered the call of duty on 9/11 including Tenafly Fire Department, Tenafly Police Department and Tenafly Ambulance Squad; and all who perished on September 11, 2001. The memorial sculpture includes a steel remnant of the fallen World Trade Center's South Tower, and features a large ring fashioned from a section of railway track by a local blacksmith in 1891 and a 1903 bell, both of which were used to summon firefighters before the advent of modern sirens and pagers. Coincidentally, the large bell was forged in Troy, New York, where Stanton attended The Troy Female Seminary (now The Emma Willard School).

31

### CHRISTIE-PARSELS HOUSE 195 Jefferson Avenue



The original portions of this well-preserved brownstone Dutch Colonial were built in 1804 by William P. Christie, who bought the land in 1791 for 500 pounds from James Christie. In 1836, Samuel Parsels added a wing and in 1860 sold the property to Charles Newcomb. The house is listed on the Historic American Buildings Survey for the State of New Jersey.

32

### THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TENAFLY 55 Magnolia Avenue



Sitting in the heart of the Magnolia Historic District, the original stone chapel contains exquisite stained-glass windows by Lamb Studios. Land for this church was donated in 1865 by Jane Leigh Swift. Judge Ashbel Green built the former manse across the street at 50 Magnolia in memory of his wife, Louisa.

Nearby, at 54 Magnolia, is the home of former Mayor Frederic L. Colver. Colver eventually became the President of the nationally

## OTHER SITES OF HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

read Frank Leslie's magazines and newspapers. Miriam Leslie, the widow of founder Frank Leslie, favored women's rights and left Anthony and Stanton large sums in her will to further the women's movement. In Tenafly, Colver served as ninth Mayor (1912–1913) and helped to organize the local library. At 56 Magnolia lived his daughter-in-law, the highly published novelist, Alice Mary Ross Colver, who wrote more than 60 books for adults and teens.

### 33 JELLISON-KING HOUSE 330 Engle Street



Perched on a hill, this 1873 house in the Italianate Villa style was designed by architect Gamaliel King, the designer of City Hall (now Borough Hall) in Brooklyn. King designed the home for his daughter Sarah Snow Jellison and her husband, George, who was an early leader in the Church of the Atonement, and their young son William, who later established a village newspaper, *The Record*. Winner of a 2006 Bergen County Historic Preservation Award.

### 34 SICKELS-MELBOURNE HOUSE 48 Knoll Road



This 18th century home with its ashlar sandstone facade and gambrel roof originally stood on Sickelstown Road in Orangetown, New York between Orangeburg and Pearl River. An early owner was William Sickels, an officer in the American Revolution<sup>48</sup>. In about 1938, the house was moved and meticulously rebuilt here by new owner Montgomery Melbourne, a commercial artist said to have originated the iconic Morton Salt slogan, "When It Rains, It Pours."

### 35 ANTHONY STABLE / BONNY DELL FARM BARN 19 Peter Lynas Court



This stone house was originally a 19th century carriage house or stable-barn for the Bonny Dell Farm, a dairy which stretched along Hudson Avenue and up the hillside. The land has been traced to a farm owned by Sir James Jay who moved to Tenafly after the Revolutionary War. The stone building was carefully converted in the 20th century to a modern home while preserving many of its historic features.

## OTHER SITES OF HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

### 36 TENAFLY NATURE CENTER 313 Hudson Avenue



The 380-acre nature preserve features nearly seven miles of hiking trails, a pond, an aviary housing injured raptors, the headquarters building with exhibits, and an erratic (a boulder or rock left in place by glaciers) known as "Haring Rock". The large boulder is named for Dr. J. Haring, an early physician and author of a local history *Floating Chips*, who used to meditate next to the glacial remnant.

### 37 WILLIAM LAIMBEER, JR. ESTATE 425 Hudson Avenue within Tenafly Nature Center



William Laimbeer, Jr. was among the original contributors for the construction of Tenafly Railroad Station. Laimbeer was an associate of Boss Tweed, and old stories say that the Tweed ring stored records here to impede access by the New York courts. The estate, once named "Hilltop", is comprised of a private main house, fronted by stone walls and gate posts, and a cottage owned by the Borough now occupied by Nature Center staff.



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