

WESTWOOD'S HISTORIC CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT

A WESTWOOD HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION SELF-GUIDED WALKING TOUR

Veterans' Memorial Park is surrounded on all sides by historic architecture. The homes along Park Ave (1850-1910) and businesses along Third Ave, Washington, Broadway, and Westwood Ave (1865-1945) give Westwood its unique character and distinct sense of place. Walk along the route below to learn more about the historic public structures in and around the park, and the commercial buildings along Westwood Ave and its cross streets.

1

Westwood Train Station

1932

2

Westwood Public Library

1938

3

The Bandstand

1924

4

Westwood Trust Company

1932

5

First National Bank

1908

6

Pascack Theater

1928

7

107 & 119 Westwood Ave

1924

8

175 Westwood Ave

1932

9

208 Fairview Ave

1945

10

Post Office

1935

11

152 Westwood Ave

1925

12

104 Westwood Ave

1917

13

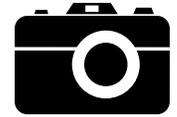
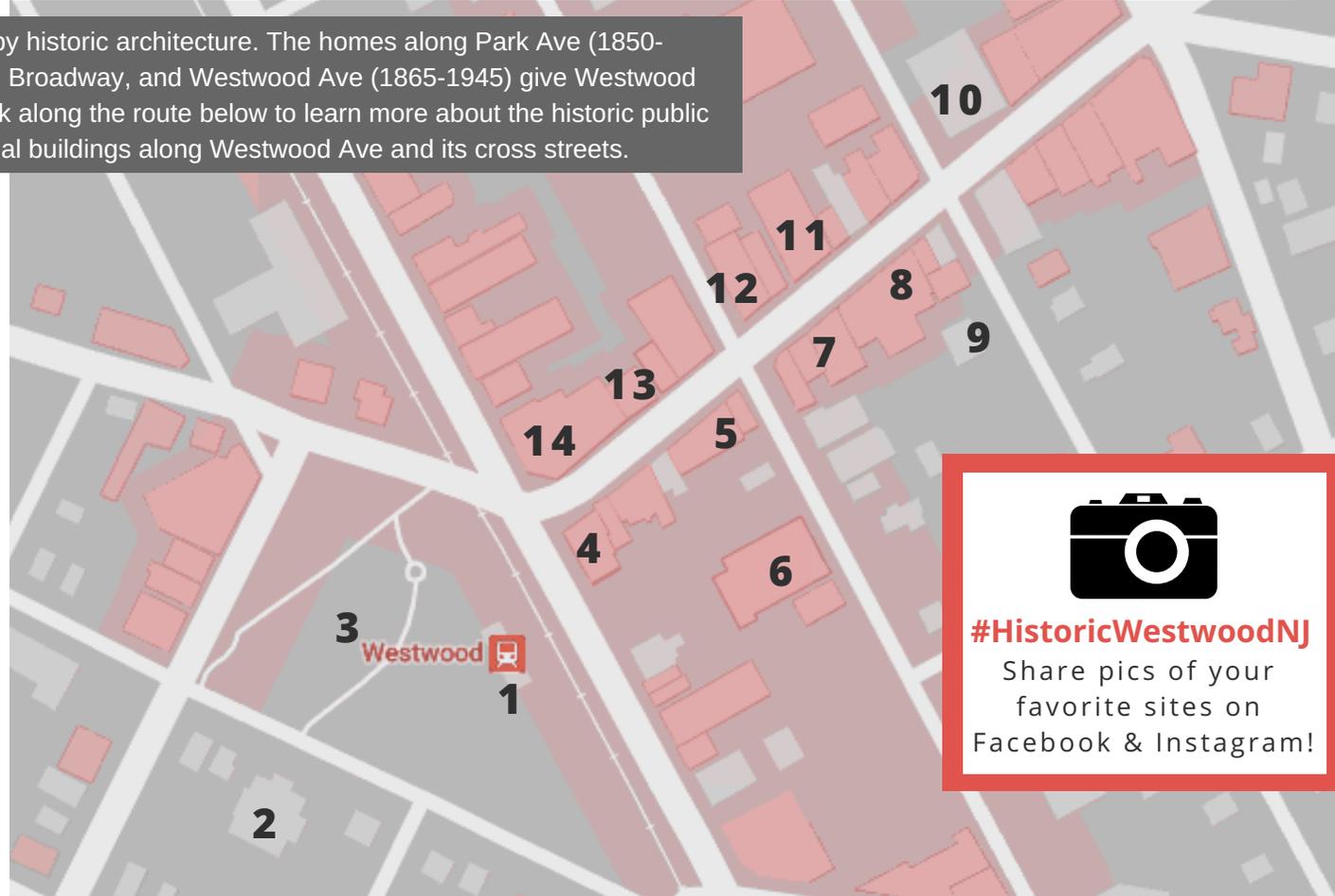
56-68 Westwood Ave

1870

14

Tassini Building

1935



#HistoricWestwoodNJ

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Remembering our past:

Pause to read privately funded historic markers at:

11 Madison Ave

Stereoscope Factory and Car Dealership

25 Westwood Ave

View of the 1920s Streetscape

102 Westwood Ave

Hartly Department Store

90 Westwood Ave

FW Woolworth

36 Jefferson Ave

Chevrolet Dealership

Did you know: The Jefferson Ave Historic District highlights the unprecedented growth of Westwood after the extension of the NYC rail line through the borough in 1870. The colonial revival homes at 57, 59, 62, 73, & 77 Jefferson (1890-1905) were subdivisions of land owned by judge & real estate investor George T. Brickell and his son, Thomas G. Brickell, Director of the First National Bank, mayor, postmaster, & tax collector.

EXPLORE OUR HISTORY: WESTWOOD'S CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT

1. Nominated to the State & National Registers of Historic Places for its role in Westwood's transformation from rural town to suburban hub, the active NJ Transit station is now home to the Heritage Society archives. Restorations have included the slate roof & stone facade (2008) & interior ticket office window (2018).

2. Reading rooms were hosted throughout the borough before the Westwood Library was founded in 1919. Its free & permanent location invites the community with rose windows in each gable and a swan & urn pediment above wood-paneled doors. 2019 is the Library's 100th birthday. Celebrate by getting your library card & exploring the collection!

3. Built with donated funds, the classical revival, elevated octagon is an icon of the Westwood Community. The Heritage Society has done significant restoration to the clay tile roof, wooden Doric columns & balustrades.

4. At the former site of the Van Emburgh & Bogert General Store, this 4-story Art Moderne/neo-Classical bank building acts as a gateway to the CBD. In 2003 it was covered in stucco. Look up at the rosette medallions under the cornice!

AS YOU WALK, look for two Westwood Ave buildings named after two of Westwood's original residents, Bogert and Brickel.

5. Originally 1-story, it was the most modern and best equipped bank in NJ with 1,075 accounts totaling \$190k, Its 100th anniversary renovation by Westwood architect, William J. Martin, RA, AIA received a Bergen County Historic Preservation Commendation Award. Look up to see the building's name!

CHECK OUT the 1950s modern Heck Realty building on your way to the theater!

6. Built on a farm site, the original vaudevillian theater was converted to a multiplex in 1985. The marquee is modern, but facade elements, including the stucco walls, painted brick, & terra-cotta coping & trim are original.

7. Distinguished by a pair of pedimented parapets, this building is united under a stripe of cast-stone coping. While Conrad's moved to this location in 1935, the storefront dates to 1940. Legend says there's a bullet hole in the floor dating to the 1950s!

8. Also known as the Realtor Building based on prior tenants, LaViano's has intermittently occupied this building since 1955. Note the 12-light windows with metal sashes on the upper floors & unique metal lettering affixed to the stucco on the north & east facades.

9. Check out the curved roof and enamel tiles that cover this streamline moderne 1-story garage. The three bays with roll-down doors, plastic and metal signage, and enormous aluminum-shaded floodlights still show off the mid-century aesthetic that inspired the design.

LOOK ACROSS and see an 1885 Queen Anne!

10. This 6th location of the Westwood Post Office was designed by Louis A. Simon, Supervising Architect of the Treasury, commissioned as part of President Roosevelt's New Deal. The symmetrical facade & ornate entryway are typical of its colonial revival design. On Nov. 27, 2010, it was renamed the Sgt. Christopher Hrbek Post Office in honor of a young resident who lost his life serving as a Marine in Afghanistan.

11. A pair of arched and stepped pedimented parapets punctuated with Art Deco designs, plus a centrally located shed-roof covered in copper tiles, give this building its unique character. 267 Center Ave has similar styling.

NOTE the brickwork on 72 Westwood Ave! Can you make out the name at the top?

12. The elaborate brickwork of the 2nd floor has survived multiple storefront modernizations, thus highlighting the ways historic buildings can adapt to the times while retaining historic character. [Turn the corner to see 267 Center Ave (1927)]

13. The diagonal wood siding is a false front! Peek down the alley and look up to see remnants of what was once a Queen Anne style home and vegetable & meat market. (The Heritage Society has its original meat sled!) In 1905 the porch was enclosed & in 1920 the faux facade was added.

14. Formerly the location of Westwood House Hotel, this was built by the Tassini brothers for their Quality Food and Liquor Center. The crosses reflect one of the brother's religious devotion. Art Deco style details include multiple groupings & sizes of recessed brick above the 2nd floor windows, saw-tooth brick details at the corners, & varied crenelation at the roofline.

Is Westwood Historic?

Over 100 structures in the Borough have been identified as having historic importance and 5 properties along the south side of Jefferson Ave have been designated as part of the Jefferson Ave Historic District. Westwood's historic architecture reflects over 125 years of our community's development as the Hub of the Pascack Valley.

Our Mission

Since 2008, appointed members of the Westwood HPC have identified structures that merit recognition & have promoted historic preservation through community advisement & education in fulfillment of the Borough's historic preservation ordinance.

www.westwoodnj.gov
historical@westwoodnj.gov



@WestwoodHPC



@historicwestwoodnj

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Public meetings:

7:30pm, Borough Hall
2nd Wed. each month