



North Ward News

“A New Beginning”

Special Historic Landmarks Designation Edition!

Greetings to the Forest Hill Community in Newark’s North Ward. The North Ward is a unique blend of different cultures and communities. Together we enjoy many treasures including our Historic District! Within this special edition of our North Ward Newsletter we have important information for homeowners of Historic Properties in Newark, New Jersey.

Founded in 1666, Newark, New Jersey is the 3rd oldest major city in the United States. The city reached it’s peak growth between 1826 and 1930 during which time many

architectural gems were constructed right here in our backyard! In order to protect this important part of our city’s heritage some districts have been placed on the local, state and national register of historic places such as our very own Forest Hill.

This issue will provide some clarity as to the responsibilities in adhering to the municipal ordinance concerning historic properties.

History and Newark
Newark’s history is divided into four chapters. The first was its Puritan origins; the second, the rise of its industrial and commercial empire; the third, the 20th century and its roller-coaster ride into modern history, and the fourth, its recent reawakening now being referred to as Newark’s “Renaissance.”



Anibal Ramos Jr.
The Honorable Anibal Ramos, Jr.
North Ward Councilman

General Historic District Information FAQs

Is my property historic?
To determine if your property has been designated as “historic” or is located in a historic district, contact the Secretary of the Commission at (973) 733-4828.

What is the meaning of “Historic Designation?”
A Historic Designation means that your building has special historical, cultural or aesthetic value and is an important part of Newark’s heritage. As such, the Commission must approve in advance any work on the building that changes its appearance if it is visible from a public street.

A Historic District area in the city has special character, historical or aesthetic interest which causes it to have a distinct “sense of place.”

When is Commission Approval needed? In order to make changes to any and every designated structure, the Commission’s approval is required, must be requested and complied with.

What doesn’t require Commission Approval? Ordinary exterior repairs and maintenance such as replacing broken glass or removing graffiti do not require the Commission’s approval.

What about interior work? Interior work requires approval only if it will effect the exterior.

What is the responsibility of historic property owners? There is concern that some owners might allow their historic buildings to deteriorate to such a degree that the building would

lose its historical significance. In order to preserve this landmark, the law requires that designated properties be kept in good repair.

What about new construction? Landmark designation does not prevent alterations and new construction. However the Commission must review proposed changes and deem them appropriate before you can proceed.

What if a tenant makes alterations? If a tenant makes alterations without Commission approval both the tenant and owner will be held responsible.

Thoughts to Begin Your Day

The Power of History
“The pyramids, attached with age, have forgotten the names of their founders.”
- R. Buckminster Fuller

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Special Historic Edition

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Faces in the Community

Nick Cascella



Mr. Nick Cascella is a lifelong Newarker who worked for many years in the Insurance industry as a State Farm agent and for a decade as an employee of the City of Newark. Mr. Cascella and his beautiful wife, Odette, are the proud owners of an English Tudor home built in 1925 and located at 503 Parker Street near the Ballantine Gateway entrance leading into Branch Brook Park. They fell in love with the home since they first gazed at the heavenly glow of the sun upon its majestic peaks while driving one spring morning a number of years ago. Today the home remains in pristine condition and is a crown jewel of the Forest Hill Historic District.





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City of Newark Mini-Directory

- (973) 733-6000 Police 911 Non-Emergency Line
- (973) 733-6000 North Ward Police Precinct
- (973) 733-6294 Animal Control
- (973) 733-6471 Code Enforcement
- (973) 733-7400 Fire Department
- (973) 733-7600 Health and Human Services
- (973) 733-6400 Mayor's Office
- (973) 733-8500 MOET
- (973) 733-5378 Neighborhood and Recreational Services
- (973) 733-6390 Permits
- (973) 733-6183 Traffic and Signals
- (973) 424-1854 Trees
- (973) 733-3655 Water and Sewer
- (973) 733-3000 Welfare

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