

featured home

(Featuring Style by Arthur B. Heaton homes in Chevy Chase Village)

From the 1910s to 1920s, Architect Arthur B. Heaton Designed Charming Homes in Chevy Chase Village.

The architect's Colonial and Tudor Revival styles can be found across Washington, DC

By Bruce Wentworth, AIA
Photos by Wentworth, Inc. of Bruce Wentworth's NW Arthur B. Heaton home

Arthur B. Heaton was a prolific architect who designed hundreds of homes in the Washington, DC area during a career that spanned from 1897 to 1947. The architect preferred architectural styles popular during the prosperous decade of the 1920s, such as Colonial Revival, Tudor Revival, and Craftsman styles. His own home on Indian Lane, NW, in the Spring Valley area is a Colonial Revival.



Photos By: Wentworth, Inc.



Within Chevy Chase Village there are more than ten custom homes designed by Heaton with the majority of them in the Colonial Revival style.



Heaton-designed homes can be seen on Lenox, Newlands, Oxford, and Primrose streets. Heaton often worked for real estate developers and investors during the booming 1920s and frequently designed custom residences for homeowners.

In 1923, Investor Clyde Asher, who hired Heaton as the architect, developed a portion of 34th Place, NW. Five modest homes, including the home my wife and I purchased 13 years ago, were designed as an assemblage with Landscape Architect John H. Small. They are a mix of Colonial and Tudor Revival styles and several have mirrored floor plans, which helped to keep costs and efforts down during construction. Earlier, Heaton designed two significantly larger houses at 3411 and 3415 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, and possibly this work led him to create the more modest homes where I live.

Because Heaton is known for his well-designed floor plans, I did not find it necessary to make major changes to my home's living spaces. However, as with most older houses that no longer fit modern living, I remodeled the kitchen and opened up the wall between the dining room and kitchen. All the 1920s bathrooms were updated and by reconfiguring two bedrooms, I created a master suite. A new rear porch addition overlooks a landscaped garden and mechanical systems were upgraded. After the appropriate remodeling, the house now will be comfortable for many decades.

I believe Heaton would be pleased to see the remodeling I have done to one of his



many charming homes—passing it on from one architect to another.

Bruce Wentworth, AIA, is an architect and licensed contractor. His design/build firm, Wentworth, Inc., is located in Chevy Chase and provides design and remodeling services for local homeowners. To learn more about historic architectural styles found in Chevy Chase Village or home remodeling services, visit www.wentworthstudio.com.

