



Mind Your Manor

ORWIN MANOR WESTMINSTER ASSOCIATION – Serving Orwin Manor Westminster since 1983

No. 2 Spring 2025

Jewell B. Hooper Park And The Arches

President's Report by Stephen Pategas

Orwin Manor Westminster contains numerous “micro-parks” that were included in developer Walter W. Rose’s plat from November 1924. They were leftover pieces of property after building lots and roads were laid out. Some of them are triangular shaped where roads do not meet perpendicularly or linear in shape as between Orange Avenue and the railroad tracks. The two locations of the three remaining southern gateway arches at Wilkinson and Clay Streets in Orlando are also parks. At some point all of the “micro-parks” were deeded to either Orlando or Winter Park respectively and removed from the tax rolls.

The Orwin Manor Westminster Association obtained an aerial photo circa late 1920s, that shows there were two northern gateway arches flanking Orange Avenue. Those locations are within two of the parks deeded to Winter Park. One grassy triangular site is at the corner of 17/92 and Orange Avenue at The Hub building. Across Orange Avenue, the unassuming park at Harmon Avenue adjacent to a parking lot hosted one of the arches and contains a ground level plaque that reads:

**This park is dedicated to
Jewell B. Hooper
1896-1974**

City of Winter Park Employee for 48 years

So, who was Mr. Hooper? With aid from an *Orlando Sentinel* article and information from Winter Park, I pieced together Hooper’s background. In 1918 in northern France during WWI, Jewell B. Hooper and his comrades were bombed with gas and their lungs were burnt. 85 years later Hooper was posthumously

awarded the Purple Heart due to efforts by his grandson Charles Hooper.

Jewell Hooper was hospitalized for six months for those injuries to his lungs. After his hospitalization, he was honorably discharged. Jewell Hooper returned to Georgia and worked there for a few years, as a firefighter. In the 1920s, he and his wife, Althea, moved to Winter Park, where Althea’s three sisters lived. The couple had three children.

He started working for the city, collecting garbage on a mule drawn wagon. Serving Winter Park for 48 years, he worked his way up to streets foreman. After retirement, Charles Hooper said, people at City Hall often would call his grandfather if they had technical questions.

Jewel Hooper died at the age of 78 and is interred at Palm Cemetery in Winter Park.

The Orwin Manor Westminster Association has reached out to the City of Winter Park to rebuild the two northern arches demolished decades ago. Please go online to <https://chnng.it/2TN4LxCZBT> and sign the OMWA petition requesting the gateway arches be rebuilt. See the petition text and an image of the proposed arches on page 2.



Photo of plaque dedicated to Jewell B. Hooper, by S. Pategas

We're excited to welcome six incredible sponsors to the Orwin Manor Westminster Association Neighborhood! A warm thank you to Home Boys | Serhant, Delaney Crosscountry Mortgage, Advent Health, McLaren Orlando, Commerce Bank & Trust, and Demetree Global for supporting our community. Their partnership helps us continue building a vibrant, connected neighborhood we're proud to call home.

Mind Your Manor

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Winter: February 1

Spring: May 1

Summer: August 1

Autumn: November 1



Proposed Northern Orwin Manor gates at their original locations flanking Orange Avenue at U.S. 17-92 & Orlando Avenue.

THE PETITION-REBUILD THE DEMOLISHED GATEWAY ARCHES

Visit: <https://chnng.it/2TN4LxCZBT>

Those who travel along Orange Avenue no longer experience the two grand Orwin Manor Gateway Arches demolished decades ago. While the 1924 southern arches still exist in Orlando and are on their historic register, the northern entryway to our historic neighborhood was destroyed along with part of our community's history and ambiance. They must be reborn.

The Orwin Manor Westminster Association found a circa late 1920s aerial photograph that showed the gateway arches located in city parks flanking Orange Avenue. Do you remember those gateway arches constructed with concrete, concrete block, stucco, and clay tile. Few if any do, since they have been lost to time. We found design professionals who worked pro bono to craft construction plans and a construction bid. These were submitted to Winter Park for inclusion in this next fiscal year's budget.

We petition the City of Winter Park to budget for and rebuild the missing Gateway Arches. While our voices are strong, the addition of your signatures and voices will create an impact that cannot be ignored.

As so much is torn down around us, let us rebuild a gateway that is an important part of our past. Please sign the petition at <https://chnng.it/2TN4LxCZBT> and share it with your neighbors and friends.

About OMWA

The Orwin Manor Westminster Association (OMWA) founded in 1983, offers the best of two worlds – a neighborhood association with voluntary membership but without the rules, regulations, or assessments of a homeowners' association. If our neighborhood was within an HOA, every household

would be assessed mandatory fees. Many volunteers contribute their time and energy to improve our neighborhood. OMWA advocates with municipalities and is responsible for launching The Park at Orwin Manor, creating the bronze identity signs, hosting events, and researching our history.

2025 OMWA Events Calendar

Oktoberfest/Potluck – Sunday, Oct. 12, 4:30 pm

Great Pumpkin Judging – Thursday, Oct. 16, after 6pm

Witches Walk – Friday, Oct. 31, 6:30 pm-8 pm

Orwin Manor Aglow – Monday, Dec. 8 after 6, (Most Traditional, Most Creative, Most Lights)

Luminaries – Wednesday, Dec. 24, rain date Dec. 25, 6 pm

Annual Meeting 2026 – Tuesday, Jan. 13, 7-9 pm at Commerce Bank & Trust

Upcoming Neighborhood Gatherings

Join us at the historic clubhouse at Dubsdread Golf Course, 549 West Par Street, Orlando every 2nd Wednesday of the month at 5:30 pm. We reserve the long high-top table adjacent to the bar in the Taproom.

Upcoming Dates:

Wednesday, May 14, 5:30 pm

Wednesday, June 11, 5:30 pm

Wednesday, July 9, 5:30 pm

Wednesday, August 13, 5:30 pm

Wednesday, September 10, 5:30 pm

The
TapRoom
at
DUBSDREAD

Board Meeting Dates

Third Tuesday, 7:00 pm-8:30 pm unless otherwise noted

Tuesday, May 20; Tuesday, July 15

Tuesday, September 16; Tuesday, November 18

Please join us! Call 407-622-4886 for the locations or to place an item on the agenda.

OMWA E-News

The E-News (typically sent out once or twice a month) moved to a MailChimp platform which provides more flexibility. We promise you will not want to opt out. So far, we reach about one-third of our neighbors. What are two-thirds of you missing? Sign up at <https://orwinmanor.org/omw>.

Love My Manor

Please join us in welcoming our newest OMWA Board Member, Bre-elle Ishtar.

Bre-elle lived in Orwin Manor in the mid-1970s when she and her four roommates rented the house at the corner of Suffolk and Harmon. Little did she know then that in 1987 she, husband Tristan, and their two Pekingese, Tealsha and Cashmere, would buy a home on Harmon Avenue. Her love for this amazing neighborhood led the Ishtars to search for their forever home here.

"I love the historic presence and the diversity of architecture we have. Besides, this is the most convenient location in the area...and...where else could



I have a pink house that sparkles!"

Bre-elle's wish for the neighborhood is that everybody who lives in Orwin Manor feels our sense of community and knows that we are ready to thrive another hundred years.

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Neighborhood Bits



Fallen tree and debris on Westchester Ave. and Canterbury Road.

It only took a light rain to bring down a street tree's huge limb. Canterbury Road neighbor Beth Miller was driving home and fortunately the tree limb missed her vehicle. Westchester Avenue at Canterbury Road was blocked until Winter Park cleared the street of the debris. The Forestry Department said it was not unusual for an old tree to lose a limb after gaining weight from the absorption of rainwater.

A few days later, Canterbury Road stayed in the news with a fire that destroyed a garage at the rear of the property at 1412. The historic house was recently restored by Tanya Glatt and Bryan Stephens. Fortunately, no one was hurt. The 1925 house was the first one in Orwin Manor Westminster to be placed on the Winter Park Historic Register and was designated in 2001.

Michael Galletta and Betsy Gwinn at 1501 Orange Avenue recently placed their 1940s house on the Winter Park Historic Register. There are now three Orange Avenue houses on the register and 29 in our neighborhood.



At right, Betsy Owens, and Winter Park Mayor Sheila DeCiccio at Casa Feliz.

May is Historic Preservation month and signs have sprouted at houses on many streets throughout Winter Park. At Casa Feliz, Executive Director Betsy Owens (right) joined Mayor Sheila DeCiccio in recognizing residents with houses on the register and presented individuals with preservation awards determined by the Historic Preservation Advisory Board.



Demo of house on Westchester Avenue.

Our neighborhood lost another original house in April when Westchester Avenue was demolished for a new house. This is the ninth house to be demolished in our neighborhood. Hopefully the architectural design of the new house will be compatible with surrounding houses. The streets that have lost houses are Orange (2), Westchester (3), Pelham (2), Suffolk (1), Cavendish (1).



New hand rails at the home on 1475 Berkshire Ave.

Check out the new metal handrails at the semi-circular steps at the front door of 1475 Berkshire Ave. Owners Meg Barclay and John Scholz felt there was a safety issue at the entrance and saw physical evidence that in the past there were handrails. Besides adding safety, they have been an aesthetically pleasing addition to their Winter Park Historic Register House. See if you agree.

Have you RRFB*ed at the crosswalk? It took about a half dozen work crews, but within a few nighttime hours the speed tables at the Orange Avenue crosswalk at The Park at Orwin Manor were slightly lowered. Now most vehicles can pass over it when doing the posted 30 mph. Prior to that there was a lot of noise from vehicles bottoming out or hitting their brakes when they spotted "Mt. Orwin." The new roadway configuration with two travel lanes, a center turn lane, and bike lanes combined with a lower speed limit (from 35 to 30) and speed tables has transformed this major transportation artery into a much safer street for drivers, pedestrians, flanking homeowners, and bicyclists. Long-time residents may remember that up to the late 1980s Orange Avenue had only two travel lanes with on street parking. *Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon in FDOT-speak.

Kudos

The campaign for the rebuild of the Gateway Arches has generated pro bono work from the following: Meg Barclay of Scholz & Barclay (architectural drawings), Elizabeth Bell (3D graphic), Greg Hartung (measurements), Tamara Khan of TMK Konstruktion (construction bid), Bill Matthews of Bowen Engineering (structural drawings), Stephen Pategas (measurements, submittal to the city, and petition), and Leslie Williams (measurements).



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Neighborhood Pro by OMA board member and Orange County Master Gardener Penny Potter

As you all know, we are in a serious drought situation. It will be probably several weeks before the summer rains, so we need to be especially mindful of our water usage. As I drive through the neighborhood, I see irrigation systems running on all days of the week, and at all hours of the day. Orange County has a watering schedule: From March 9th through November 1st: Sundays and Thursdays for even addresses, Saturdays and Wednesdays for odd addresses, Tuesday and Fridays for non-residential properties. It is recommended by University of Florida to water before 10 am and after 4 pm. When you water during the hottest part of the day, up to 2/3rd of the water escapes through evaporation. Not only are you wasting money and water, your yard is getting a fraction of the water it should be getting.

And make sure the water is staying in the yard, not on driveways or streets – once again, so wasteful! When you water once, but deeply, the roots of all plants will get to be much more efficient in using water rather than watering multiple times, but shallowly.

You can be water conscious in the house as well – turn off faucets while brushing teeth, shaving, soaping up in the shower – when water is not actually being used. Collect shower water to use for watering plants, install water saving shower heads.

For more information about water conservation, and horticulture, visit Orange County Extension, at 407-254-9200, or to websites: solutionsforyourlife.com, edis.ifas.fl.edu, fyn.ifas.ufl.edu



In The Neighborhood

LET'S KEEP OUR SIDEWALKS CLEAR AND SAFE! A FRIENDLY REMINDER FOR OUR NEIGHBORS

by OMA board member Bre-elle Ishtar

Why it matters: sidewalks connect our community. They keep kids safe walking to school, make space for strollers and wheelchairs, and provide a safe path for walkers, joggers, and pets. Let's all pitch in to keep them clear.

Here's how you can help:

1. **Trim Back Hedges & Trees** - keep sidewalks free from overhanging branches and overgrown plants.
2. **Don't Block the Walk** - avoid parking cars, bikes, or scooters across sidewalks.
3. **Be Trash Bin Smart** - on collection days, keep bins off the walkway.
4. **Sweep It Clean** - leaves, branches, or storm debris? A quick sweep keeps the path safe.
5. **Report Sidewalk Hazards** - if you spot damaged or permanently blocked sidewalks, report them to city or county services.

We're all in this together. A clear sidewalk helps everyone—families, seniors, kids, and people with disabilities. Let's keep Orange County, Winter Park, and Orlando walkable, safe, and neighbor-friendly. Thank you for being a great neighbor!

Code links for sidewalks or to report a violation:
<https://tinyurl.com/4j5m3ax9>



Garbage/Yard Trash/Recycling Container Regulation

You may call them toters, carts, or containers but please note all of them must be returned to the rear or side yard after being serviced no later than 9:00 p.m. on the day of collection in Winter Park and by 6:00 a.m. the day after collection in Orlando. Containers must be stored out of sight.

Around The Corner

Homeowners' Seminar To Help Navigate Home Construction And Renovation

In recognition of Building Safety Month, the City of Winter Park's Building & Permitting Services Department will host a seminar "Navigating Home Construction & Renovation," Tuesday, May 27, from 7 to 8 p.m., in the Murrah Community Room at the Winter Park Library located at 1052 W.

Morse Blvd. This seminar is ideal for anyone planning to build or renovate a home in Winter Park. Attendees will gain valuable insights to help make informed decisions throughout the construction or renovation process. Department staff will guide participants through key topics including permitting procedures, zoning regulations and best practices for ensuring a smooth and successful project. Reg-

istration is required for this seminar by accessing www.winterparklibrary.org/event/navigating-home-construction-and-renovation-99683.

For all editions of the Florida Building Codes access floridabuilding.org. For questions regarding the seminar, please contact the Building & Permitting Services Department at permits@cityofwinterpark.org or 407-599-3237.

Yard Of Distinction

Visit <https://orwinmanor.org/programs/>



Above: Congratulations to The Elder Family at 1476 Westchester Ave. for earning the March/April Yard of Distinction.



Above: Congratulations to Christopher Guzman at 3315 Pelham Rd. for earning the May/June Yard of Distinction.



New Driving Range & Golf Learning Center Coming To Dubsdread

The City of Orlando is proud to announce a major addition to Dubsdread Golf Course: a brand-new, state-of-the-art driving range and golf learning center, set to open this summer! Designed for golfers of all ages and abilities, this innovative facility will offer a dynamic and inclusive experience for the entire community.

Continued on page 8.



McLaren

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Orwin Manor Membership 2025

It's easy to become a 2025 Orwin Manor Westminster Association Member. Thanks to all of our existing and new members for supporting our neighborhood events and newsletter. OMWA dues fund our events, this newsletter, our P.O. Box, and so much more. Our dues are only \$35 per year. If you would like to join, simply scan the QR code below or mail a check to Orwin Manor Westminster Association, P.O. Box 2367, Winter Park, FL 32790-2367, or pay online at www.orwinmanor.org, under resources tab select membership. Contact us at <https://orwinmanor.org/contact> with any questions.

Please see a hand delivered copy for the list of paid members. Thank you.



It's Easy to Become an OMWA Member!

Scan the QR code at left, make your \$35 payment, and consider a donation.
Please note what payment is for.

Not Getting the OMWA E-News? Visit <https://orwinmanor.org/omwn/>



From page 7.

Highlights include:

- 40 Total Bays – 36 bays equipped with advanced golf technology for an interactive experience, plus 4 traditional bays for those who prefer a classic swing session.
- VIP Experience – Select bays will feature premium seating, entertainment screens, and enhanced comfort for a more elevated outing.
- Learning Center – Two private teaching bays with full Trackman technology for precision training and custom club fitting.
- Classroom Space – A dedicated area for junior golf camps and the popular “Tee It Up” lesson series,



Artist rendering of concept design for Dubsdread Golf Course Snack Building.

supporting youth and beginner instruction.

- Snack Bar & Guest Hub – A new full-service snack bar will serve food, drinks, and golf merchandise while also functioning as the central hub for

range access and guest services.

Whether you're fine-tuning your game or discovering golf for the first time, the new Dubsdread facility will be a welcoming space to learn, play, and enjoy. Stay tuned for the grand opening!