UNIVERSITY HILLS
STREET BIOGRAPHIES

By

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1 Introduction

This project began several years ago on an afternoon walk through our neighborhood of University Hills. As I passed by the various street signs, some names were unfamiliar. I wondered who Gibbs was, for instance, or Harvey. Hoping that my neighbors might also enjoy learning more about our street names, I decided to research these and submit a short biography of each to the University Hills newsletter. The editors were most receptive to the idea, and the first biography, Gibbs Court, was printed in the March 2000 newsletter. The project took several years, with the final biography, Thompson Court, appearing in the October 2005 newsletter. The thirty-one subjects (thirty-two including Gabrielino) comprise an eclectic and eminent group of scientists, authors, poets, composers, artists, and social visionaries. I learned much from reading and writing about them, and I hope my readers did, too. I wish to express my gratitude to Dorothea Yellott, formerly of ICHA, and especially to newsletter editors Lauri Barwick and Nina MacDonald for their encouragement and support throughout. And to my editor and publisher, Dr. Nadia Elghobashi: much affection and appreciation for all your suggestions and assistance.

Ellen Elghobashi
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2 How Did Our Streets Get Named?

The Academic Senate faculty was polled before University Hills Phase I was built, and in a fairly close vote, famous scholars were chosen instead of native flowers and birds as names for the streets. Campus staff helped name the through roads (such as Los Trancos and Gabrielino) which, according to campus custom, were given names reflecting geographical features. For the alphabetized streets, the ICHA Board recommended specific names, which required ultimate approval from the Campus Planning and Environmental committee chaired by the Chancellor. The street names were required to meet several criteria. First, the famous scholars had to be dead. Second, their names must be pronounceable with the pronunciations fairly obvious from the spelling. Third, the name must sound somewhat familiar. Fourth, the name shouldn't create confusion for the Post Office. There was an attempt to have a good balance of sciences and arts, and to be inclusive of both genders.

[excerpted from the October 1991 University Hills Newsletter]

Note: All street designations are taken from www.uci.edu/campusmaps.shtml

3 Alcott Court

Alcott Court is named after Louisa May Alcott, best known for her autobiographical novel *Little Women*, a book which has never gone out of publication since it was first published more than a hundred years ago in 1868. In addition to being translated into more than ten languages, girls in 1927 voted *Little Women* more influential to them than even the Bible.

Born November 29,1832, Alcott began writing as a young girl, encouraged by her father to keep a diary. In his words: "Every man is a revelation and ought to write his record." Even though her father was a superintendent of schools in Concord, Massachusetts, and her mother was a social worker, the family was quite poor. Louisa's writings were not only an escape from the family's destitute situation; they later helped support the family. The Alcotts' neighbors were the Nathanial Hawthorne family and the Ralph Waldo Emerson family, and Louisa herself was tutored by Emerson and Henry David Thoreau. Sharing the liberal views of the times, the Alcott family espoused the causes of education, women's suffrage, and the abolition of slavery.

Alcott never married, devoting herself instead to the welfare of her family. She was a teacher before she was twenty and later a seamstress. During the Civil War, she served as a volunteer nurse, faithfully keeping a journal and writing letters home about her ordeals in the hospitals. Her words were later published as "Hospital Sketches."

In addition to her famous novels, including *Little Men* and *Jo's Boys*, Alcott, under the name of A.M. Barnard, also authored Gothic thrillers, some of which were comparable indeed to the works of Hawthorne and Edgar Allen Poe. In 1867, she was chosen to be the editor of a children's magazine. Of her ability to connect with children, Emerson wrote that Alcott is"...the poet of children. She knows their angels." On March 6, 1888, Louisa May Alcott died at the age of 55, a literary legend in her own lifetime.

4 Bartok Court

Béla Bartók (1881-1945) was an important twentieth century composer and performer who based much of his music on the traditional folk tunes of Hungary and Romania. His works combine elements of dissonance and tonal ambiguity and greatly influenced the course of classical music. Born in the part of Hungary that is now Romania, Bartók's parents were both musical. He studied at the Budapest Royal Academy of Music where he became acquainted with the music of Liszt, Wagner, and Strauss.

After the Budapest premier of Strauss's, $Also\ sprach\ Zarathustra$ in 1902, Bartók wrote $Kossuth$ (1903), a symphonic poem. In 1907, Bartók accepted a position at the Budapest Academy; he remained in Hungary for more than thirty years, composing teaching pieces for the piano and several works for strings, including his six string quartets and the second Violin Concerto (1938). He performed his music throughout Europe until the war forced Bartók and his wife to immigrate to New York in 1940. The next few years in America were difficult for Bartók; he struggled financially and then discovered that he had cancer. Among his final compositions are the Concerto for Orchestra (1943) and his Sonata for solo violin (1944). Bartók died from leukemia at the age of 59.

5 Blake Court

William Blake was an English poet, painter and engraver, as well as a political and religious visionary. His work was not fully appreciated during his lifetime, however, and he died in poverty. A century later, he gained recognition as an inspired genius in art and literature.

Born in London in 1757, Blake attended school until he was 14 years old and then became an engraver's apprentice. His first major illustrated work of poetry was *Songs of Innocence* (1789), in which Blake engraved both the words and drawings on copper plates. His wife Catherine assisted him, often coloring the pictures by hand. Blake's method of engraving on copper plate was one he developed himself; he referred to it as "illuminated printing" and used it in all his subsequent works. In 1794, he completed *Songs of Experience*, which contains the famous poem, "Tiger! Tiger! Burning Bright."

Blake rebelled against strong authoritarianism in both religion and politics. He championed the political revolutions in America and France, and even helped arrange Thomas Paine's escape to France in 1793. Blake's religious beliefs advocated a non- structured, individualized Christianity based upon personal revelation and mythology.

Blake suffered from gallstones and died childless in 1827, at the age of 70. He was buried in London in a common grave.

6 Bronte Street

Brontë is the family name of three sisters, Charlotte, Emily, and Anne, whose novels, regarded as classic works of English literature, echo the desolation of their authors' brief lives.

The girls' father, Patrick Brontë (he had changed his name from Bronty), was a rector in a Yorkshire village. Charlotte, Emily, and Anne were the youngest three of the six Brontë children and were born in 1816, 1818, and 1820, respectively. Their mother died when the youngest, Anne, was a year old. The two older sisters Maria and Elizabeth died a few years later from illnesses they contracted while students at the deplorable boarding school the girls attended. (Their father later withdrew Charlotte and Emily from the school that was the model for the Lowood School in the novel Charlotte would write, *Jane Eyre*.)

Much was expected of the only Brontë son Branwell, an aspiring artist and poet, but he squandered his education and family's financial support and became addicted to both alcohol and opium. The surviving sisters were educated primarily at home by Charlotte and began writing stories and poetry; they supported themselves by working as governesses. Their first works were published in 1846 under the pseudonyms of Currer, Ellis, and Acton Bell. A year later, each sister published a novel: *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte, *Wuthering Heights* by Emily, and *Agnes Grey* by Anne.

Tragically, within a few months of each other, Branwell, Emily, and Anne fell ill and died - Branwell at the age of 31, Emily at 30, and Anne at 29. (Anne's last novel, *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*, was published before her death.) Charlotte, the only Brontë sibling to marry, survived but a few short years after the deaths of her sisters and brother. She contracted tuberculosis while pregnant and died in 1855, at the age of 39.

7 Curie Court

Curie Court is named in honor of Marie Curie, the shy, reserved and brilliant physicist whose research earned her an unprecedented two Nobel Prizes in science. Born Marya Sklodowska in Poland on November 7, 1967, Marie was a top student. She and her older sister Bronya yearned to attend university, but at that time Poland was part of the Russian Empire, and Russia prohibited women from studying at a university. The two sisters thus made a plan: Marie would remain in Poland to work and support her sister through medical school in Paris, and then Marie would travel to Paris to pursue her studies. For six years, therefore, Marie worked as a governess while Bronya completed her medical studies in France.

At the age of twenty-four, Marie left Poland for Paris, where she changed her name to Marie and enrolled in the University of Paris, subsisting on a meager diet of mostly bread and tea for two years. With her 1893 graduate degree, Marie made history as the first woman to graduate from the Sorbonne with a degree in physics. A year later she met and married physicist Pierre Curie in a quiet civil ceremony; their honeymoon was a bicycle tour. The newlyweds agreed to devote their lives to science; they worked side by side for several years until Pierre's tragic, accidental death on a Paris street in 1906.

Marie Curie was renowned in her own lifetime. Her name was a household word, and she was perhaps the most famous scientist of the day. The subject of her doctoral research was radioactivity, a term she coined; later she was the first woman in Europe to receive a doctorate in science. She was the first person to realize that the atom was not a solid entity but rather a composition of smaller, subatomic particles and the source of radioactivity. She discovered the elements polonium, which she named after her native Poland, and radium. With her husband, she was the first to isolate radium. She was the first woman to receive the Nobel Prize (jointly with her husband and Henri Becquerel, for physics in 1903) and the first person ever to receive a second Nobel Prize (for chemistry in 1911). She was the first woman to lecture at the Sorbonne and was also that institution's first woman professor. Marie Curie was the first person to use mobile x-ray units to diagnose the wounded on the battlefronts of World War 1; she later founded and was the first director of the Radium Institute in Paris. She was the first Nobel Prize- winning mother of a daughter who also won a Nobel Prize (Irene, for chemistry in 1935). And finally, she

was the first woman to have her ashes enshrined in the Pantheon in Paris, the memorial to the "great men of France" (April 1995).

The extraordinary life of Marie Sklodowska Curie is best summarized in her own words: "Life is not easy for any of us. But what of that? We must have ... confidence in ourselves. We must believe that we are gifted for something and that this thing must be attained." Marie Curie died of leukemia, caused by her exposure to radium, on July 4, 1934, at the age of sixty-seven.

8 Dickens Court

Charles Dickens (1812-1870) is often regarded as the greatest novelist of the Victorian era. His popular works, which addressed the social injustices of the time, were serialized and often read aloud by readers and the author himself. An amateur actor, Dickens mesmerized his listeners and readers with emotional tales of suffering and anguish. The deaths of certain characters would frequently cause his audiences to weep with despair.

Born to John and Elizabeth Dickens, Charles was twelve years old when his father went into debt. The entire family, except Charles, was sent to debtors' prison; Charles was put to work in abhorrent conditions at a blacking factory. This traumatic childhood would underlie most of Dickens's writing, causing him to focus on the miserable conditions of the Victorian underclasses.

Dickens's first job was as a reporter; he adopted "Boz" as a pseudonym and wrote various sketches about London. *Pickwick Papers* was released in monthly installments (a format he popularized) in 1836 and was widely received. At this time he married Catherine Hogarth and continued publishing his novels in installments- *Oliver Twist* in 1837 and *Nicholas Nickleby* in 1838. Four years later he traveled to the United States, lecturing about the necessity of abolishing slavery. *Martin Chuzzlewit* was partly based on this trip. He also wrote *A Christmas Carol* in 1844. Dickens and his family then traveled to Italy, Switzerland, and France, returning to England in 1847. *David Copperfield*, largely autobiographical, appeared in 1849. Four years later, Dickens traveled again to Italy where he lived for a year. *Hard Times* began in weekly installments upon his return to England in 1854. In 1855, he relocated his family to Paris and began to write *Little Dorrit*.

In 1858, Dickens and his wife, after 22 years of marriage and ten children, separated. The next year saw the first parts of *A Tale of Two Cities* and *Great Expectations*. He continued with his public readings in Paris, London, Ireland, and Scotland. Dickens's health seriously declined during a trip to America from 1867 to 1868, and back in London, he suffered a fatal stroke. His death supposedly caused a little girl to cry out: "Dickens dead? Then will Father Christmas die, too?" Charles Dickens was buried at Westminster Abbey.

9 Eliot Court

George Eliot, born Mary Ann Evans in 1819, was a British author whose novels include *Adam Bede* (1859), *The Mill on the Floss* (1860), *Silas Marner* (1861), and *Middlemarch* (1871-1872). With her innovative literary style, Eliot explored the inner moral dilemmas that confront people and earned D. H. Lawrence's praise: "It was really George Eliot who started it all. It was she started putting action on the inside."

After her mother's death in 1836, Eliot took care of her father and his household until his death in 1849. Eliot eventually moved to London and, using the name Marian Evans, became an editor of "Westminster Review." She associated with a group of literary friends and met George Henry Lewes, who was unhappily married but unable to divorce his wife. Lewes and Eliot fell in love and scandalously, for the times, lived together until his death in 1878.

With the publication of her first novel, *Adam Bede*, Eliot acknowledged that she was Marian Evans, the author. Her next two novels followed quickly and were also successful. Her fourth and greatest novel is *Middlemarch*. Two lesser-known novels were *Romola* (1863) and *Daniel Deronda* (1876). At the age of 59, after Lewes's death, Eliot married John Cross, an American banker twenty years younger than Eliot. After the couple honeymooned in Venice, they returned to London, where Eliot died a few months later of kidney failure. Her wish to be buried in Westminster Abbey was denied, and she was buried instead in Highgate Cemetery in 1880.

10 Frost Street

Robert Lee Frost (1874-1963) was an American poet and the only person ever to receive four Pulitzer Prizes for poetry. His best-known and frequently quoted poems are "The Road Not Taken" and "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening." Frost's melodic verses -often set in rural New England- were traditional in format yet considered experimental in style: he used regional, everyday syntax to express his philosophical observations of life.

Born in San Francisco, Frost moved to New England with his family after his father's death from tuberculosis in 1885. He published his first poetry in high school. Frost attended both Dartmouth and Harvard universities, and although he never earned an undergraduate degree, he later received more than 25 honorary degrees.

As a young man, Frost continued writing poetry, supporting himself by teaching and working as a newspaper reporter. In 1895, he married Elinor White, his high school sweetheart. They were married 43 years and had six children, only two of whom survived Frost. After selling the family farm in 1912, Frost moved his family to England in order to write full time. There he published two volumes of poetry, $A\ Boy's\ Will$ (1913) and $North\ of\ Boston$ (1914). Lured by the prospect of having his work published in America, Frost and his family returned to New England. Fame and recognition soon followed. Elected to the National Institute of Arts and Letters in 1916, he was awarded his first Pulitzer Prize for poetry in 1924 for $New\ Hampshire$. After his second Pulitzer for $Collected\ Poems$ (1930), Frost was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Letters. He won two more Pulitzers for $A\ Further\ Range$ (1934) and $A\ Witness\ Tree$ (1942). Throughout his long career, Frost taught and lectured at Amherst College, the University of Michigan, Dartmouth, and Harvard.

Frost was honored in 1950 by a Senate resolution and three years later was awarded the Fellowship of the Academy of American Poets. President Eisenhower invited him to visit the White House in 1958, and in 1960, Congress awarded Frost a gold medal for his poetry. Newly elected John Kennedy asked him to read a poem at the inauguration in January 1961-the first time a poet read a poem at a Presidential inauguration. Frost wrote a new poem for the event but could not read it that day due to the glaring sunlight. Instead he recited "The Gift Outright"

from memory.

In late 1962, after an exhausting trip to the former Soviet Union and a visit with Premier Khrushchev, Frost's health declined. He was diagnosed with prostate and bladder cancer and suffered a pulmonary embolism. He died at the age of 89 on January 29, 1963. Although Congress did not establish the office of poet laureate until 1985, his fellow Americans certainly regarded Robert Frost as the national poet.

11 Fuertes Street

Louis Agassiz Fuertes (1874-1927) was the American artist and naturalist whose paintings of birds and wildlife illustrated important twentieth century ornithological publications. Born in Ithaca, New York, Fuertes was named after the Harvard professor and naturalist, Louis Agassiz. At an early age, Fuertes was fascinated by John James Audubon's $Birds\ of\ America$, and he began to draw birds. Although he was a poor student in every subject except art, Fuertes graduated from Cornell University in 1897.

Two years later, he was asked to join the Harriman scientific expedition to Alaska. Fuertes' meticulous and exquisite drawings from that trip earned him a reputation as the most important bird artist in America. (Fuertes, as Audubon, shot the thousands of birds he sketched, arranging the carcasses in lifelike poses.) At the height of a successful career that included illustrating articles for "National Geographic" and his own three-volume $Birds\ of\ Massachusetts$, Fuertes agreed to join the Abyssinian Expedition (present day Ethiopia) in 1926. He returned the following year and died two months later in a car accident in New York at the age of fifty-two.

12 Gabrielino Drive

The Gabrielino Indians, also known as the Tongva, were peaceful hunter-gatherers of the Takic family and Uto-Aztecan stock. They settled in Southern California around 500 B.C. and occupied the coastal plains from Malibu Creek to Aliso Creek, some inland valleys, and the offshore islands of Santa Catalina and San Clemente. The Gabrielino Indians were so-named after the San Gabriel Mission (1771), one of two missions established on Tongva lands (Mission San Fernando Rey was founded in 1797).

An advanced and wealthy people, the Gabrielinos hunted deer, coyote, rabbit, fish, and birds using various tools, such as the bow and arrow, javelin, snares, and traps. Their diet also included wild greens, berries, and acorns, which after extensive treatment to remove the bitter tannic acid were made into bread, gruel, or used in soups. Yucca was another source of food and was also used to make sandals. Tule grass was woven into skirts for the women and used in thatched, cone-shaped dwellings. Both men and women wore their hair long. Tattoos were made by rubbing charcoal, for example, into small wounds. Jewelry included necklaces of beaded stones, shells and seeds, and earrings of cane. Gabrielino crafts included basket making, stone and shell crafts, and boat making (a skill they adapted from the Chumash). They believed in one creation deity and explained that an earthquake occurred when one of the seven giants who supported the earth on their shoulders suddenly moved to readjust the load.

Mission life and European diseases depleted Native American populations in California. Forced to build and work on the Spanish missions, the Indians were never allowed to return to their previous lifestyles and lands. They eventually succumbed to small pox, chicken pox, measles, tuberculosis, and pneumonia. In 1700, there were an estimated 5000 Gabrielinos; by 1900, there were 50. Today, according to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, there are perhaps 300 living in Southern California. The Gabrielino-Tongva legacy also survives in several local place names: Cahuenga, Topanga, Tujunga, Pacoima, and Cucamonga. A Verdugo Mountain summit is called Tongva Peak, and the Gabrielino Trail is in the Angeles National Forest.

13 Gibbs Court

Gibbs Court is named after J. Willard Gibbs, born in 1839 and regarded as one of the greatest scientists of all time. Gibbs was a quiet, dignified bachelor whose brilliant theoretical research in mathematics, physics and chemistry was neither appreciated nor even understood by contemporary American scientists who focused instead on practical applications, especially inventions.

Born in New Haven, Connecticut, Gibbs received his undergraduate and graduate education at Yale University. His 1863 Ph.D. was the first doctorate in engineering awarded in the United States. Gibbs tutored at Yale until 1866 and then traveled to Europe. He spent the next three years attending lectures given by noted scientists in France and Germany, where the world's most important physics research centers were located. Many scientists believe that it was this period in his life that strengthened Gibbs' theoretical background.

Upon returning to the United States, he became professor of mathematical physics at Yale in 1871. Gibbs' scientific contributions are legion. His work on vector analysis is central to pure mathematics; the American Mathematical Society named their Gibbs Lectures to honor him. (The Gibbs Lecturer in 1934 was Albert Einstein.) In addition, Gibbs is credited with developing modern vector calculus, the Gibbs' paradox in statistical mechanics, the Gibbs principle for statistical entropy, and the Gibbs phenomenon in the convergence of Fourier series. The one work, however, that placed Gibbs "... in the first rank among scientists" was his paper, "On the Equilibrium of Heterogeneous Substances," which made an invaluable contribution to the field of thermodynamics.

Two quotes are attributed to Gibbs: "Mathematics is a language," and "One of the principle objects of research in my department of knowledge is to find the point of view from which the subject appears in the greatest simplicity." J. Willard Gibbs died in New Haven in 1903, at the age of 64.

14 Handel Court

Georg Friederich H$\ddot{a}$ndel, the great Baroque composer, was born in Halle, Germany, in 1685. (Johann Sebastian Bach was born the same year, in a city 50 miles from H$\ddot{a}$ndel's birthplace.) As a boy, H$\ddot{a}$ndel was a gifted musician and played the organ, harpsichord, and violin. Although his father tried to steer his young son into what he considered a more reputable profession, he finally allowed H$\ddot{a}$ndel to pursue a career in music. By the age of 20, H$\ddot{a}$ndel was composing operas; he spent several years in Italy, where he met Corelli and Scarlatti.

In 1711, H$\ddot{a}$ndel was invited to London and there composed several successful Italian operas. His $Water\ Music$, written for a 1717 royal party on the Thames River endeared him to King George I (the elector of Hanover). Choosing to remain in England, H$\ddot{a}$ndel became a naturalized English citizen in 1726 and served as court composer to three English monarchs.

H$\ddot{a}$ndel was a prolific composer of operas, oratorios (compositions which are similar to operas except there are no costumes or scenery), and sacred, vocal, orchestral and chamber music. One of his most famous works, $Messiah$ (1742), is an English oratorio, a form H$\ddot{a}$ndel created.

More than six foot tall and heavyset, H$\ddot{a}$ndel never married. In his later years, he suffered from cataracts. The English oculist, John Taylor, who also treated J. S. Bach for cataracts, performed surgery, without anesthetic, that left H$\ddot{a}$ndel blind. (Bach, too, was blind after surgery by Taylor and most probably contracted septicemia from Taylor's unsterile instruments.) H$\ddot{a}$ndel died in 1759, at the age of 74, and was buried in state in Westminster Abbey; 3000 mourners attended. Almost a century later, Beethoven praised H$\ddot{a}$ndel as " the greatest composer who ever lived. I would bare my head and kneel at his grave."

15 Harvey Court

Harvey Court is named after the English physician whose seventeenth century discovery of the correct function of the circulatory system led to modern day physiology. Born on April1, 1578, William Harvey completed his undergraduate studies at Cambridge in 1597, and then traveled to Padua, Italy. The University of Padua was the preeminent medical school of the day. There Harvey studied the circulatory system under a famous anatomist and received his medical degree in 1602. He returned to England and married Elizabeth Browne, whose father was one of the Queen's physicians. Six years later, Harvey was appointed a physician to James I and later to his successor, Charles 1. Among Harvey's many private patients was Sir Francis Bacon.

In England, Harvey continued his study of the circulatory system and lectured at the College of Physicians. In 1628, he published his findings in a work entitled, *Anatomical Essay on the Motion of the Heart and Blood in Animals*, in which he accurately explained the heart's role in the circulatory system. At the time it was incorrectly believed that contraction of the arteries caused the blood to circulate. Harvey's research, which included dissections and studies of live animals, led him to theorize correctly that the heart pumped blood. Acclaimed for his brilliant though initially controversial work, Harvey was eventually elected president of the College of Physicians in 1654, but poor health led him to decline the honor. He died in London on June 3, 1657.

16 Joyce Court

James Joyce was a 20th century writer whose creative ingenuity revolutionized modern literature. Born James Augustine Aloysius Joyce in Dublin, Ireland, in 1882, Joyce was the eldest of 10 children. His family was Roman Catholic, middle-class, yet often impoverished. Joyce began publishing his work during his college years, and in 1902 he received a university degree in modern languages. Two years later, he met and fell in love with Nora Barnacle, a chambermaid. By that time, Joyce was disappointed and bitterly frustrated by his stifling environs and decided to leave both the Catholic Church and Ireland. Nevertheless, the city and people of Dublin were the underpinnings of his subsequent -and often controversial- works. Joyce and Nora first settled in Italy, where their two children were born. Joyce continued his writing while he worked at various jobs to support his family and later relied on the largesse of family and patrons.

Joyce's first major work, *Dubliners*, a collection of short stories, was finally published in 1914 after several years of battling publishers who objected to what they considered coarse language and inappropriate subject matter. Two years later saw the publication of the semi-autobiographical *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man.* In this work, Joyce used stream of consciousness, a literary technique that he developed further in *Ulysses*, a novel about one day in the lives of two Irishmen. (The day Joyce wrote about in *Ulysses* was the date when he and Nora first went out together.) *Ulysses* was published in Paris in 1922 but banned in Britain and America for years. Joyce's final work, *Finnegan's Wake* (1939), was poorly received. About the book's enigmatic style and syntax, Joyce said that it "would keep the critics busy for three hundred years."

Joyce's family life was itinerant, moving between London, where he and Nora married in 1931, and continental Europe. In 1934, while living in Zürich, their daughter Lucia became Carl Jung's patient; she was diagnosed as schizophrenic and died in an English mental hospital in 1982. James Joyce was half-blind most of his life; he suffered eye-trouble, including glaucoma, and underwent more than ten operations. He died of a stomach ulcer in Zürich in 1941, at the age of 58. His Promethean style and explicit realism made Joyce a literary legend in his own time. All his major works are regarded as masterpieces.

17 Locke Court

John Locke (1632-1704) was one of the most influential philosophers of his time. His political theories helped to establish a constitutional monarchy and freedom of the press in England, and formed the cornerstones of both the American and French Revolutions. In his writings, Locke advocated the separation of church and state, religious tolerance, a system of checks and balances based on the separation of the branches of government, and the right of a people to overthrow a tyrannical ruler.

Locke was educated at Oxford where he studied Latin, Greek, logic, rhetoric, and medicine. He was a contemporary of Sir Isaac Newton and became a member of the Royal Society in 1668. His medical skills endeared him to Lord Ashley (later the 1st earl of Shaftesbury), in whose household Locke resided as both physician and advisor. Through Shaftesbury, Locke was appointed to several government offices but, as a Protestant, Locke decided to flee to Holland in 1683, when Catholic James II ascended the English throne. After the Glorious Revolution in 1688 and the ascent of William III, Locke returned to England.

In 1690, he published three seminal works: *Letter on Tolerance*, *Essay concerning Human Understanding*, and *Two Treatises of Government*. His *Essay*, which had taken 20 years to write, is regarded as a classic in empirical philosophy and psychology. In the *Two Treatises of Government*, Locke defended the Glorious Revolution by debunking the theory of the divine right of kings as "glib nonsense" and explaining that rulers derive their power from the consent of the governed. Locke wrote that life, liberty, and property are the natural rights of man and that citizens have the right and indeed the duty to deny support to a government that does not protect the liberties and properties of its people. Regarding the branches of government, he wrote that the legislative branch of government should not only be distinctly separate from the executive but that it should also be the more powerful. (The inclusion of the judicial as the third branch of government was Montesquieu's idea.)

Locke never married; he held several government posts and continued his writings until his death at age 72. Locke's words and ideas inspired Thomas Jefferson, among others, and appear in the American Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights. In France, Locke's ideas, adapted by Voltaire, Montesquieu, and Rousseau, appear in the 1789 Declaration of the Rights of Man. John Locke's political theories went unchallenged until the 19th century and the onset of Marxist ideology.

18 McClintock Court

Barbara McClintock was a distinguished American cytogeneticist. Her theory of "jumping genes," or transposable elements, revolutionized the study of heredity and earned her the Nobel Prize for Medicine or Physiology in 1983. McClintock was born in Hartford, Connecticut, in 1902 and, initially against her mother's wishes, studied at Cornell University, earning her Ph.D. in 1927. Her postgraduate research on maize chromosomes led her to identify the ten maize chromosomes, to discover recombination by crossing over, and to establish that genes have a fixed position on chromosomes.

McClintock remained at Cornell as an instructor until 1931, at which time she became a fellow at the California Institute of Technology. Two years later she received a Guggenheim Fellowship, and later, in collaboration with Lewis Stadler of the University of Missouri, McClintock continued her research of maize chromosomes and gave the name telomere to the special structure she discovered at the end of a chromosome.

In 1936, she accepted the offer to join the University of Missouri as an assistant professor in the department of botany but did not receive tenure. McClintock had difficulty obtaining good, permanent positions not only because she was a woman, but also because the significance of her work was not yet completely understood. At one point she was even ready to abandon academic research and become a meteorologist. In 1942, she was offered what later became a permanent research position at Cold Spring Harbor, New York (affiliated with the Carnegie Institution of Washington).

McClintock continued her research work on maize chromosomes and, in 1944, discovered transposable elements, the theory that genetic elements can move from one position on a chromosome to another. She published her results in 1950 and presented her paper in 1951, but scientists did not then grasp the full importance of her discovery. McClintock was elected to the National Academy of Sciences and was awarded the U.S. government's highest science award, the National Medal of Science. At the age of eighty-one, she was awarded the Nobel Prize; she was the second woman (after Marie Curie in 1911) and the first American woman to receive an unshared Nobel Prize in science. Barbara McClintock died in 1992, at the age of ninety.

19 Mendel Court

Gregor Johann Mendel was the Austrian monk whose experiments with pea plants laid the foundation for modern genetics. Mendel was born on July 22, 1822, in Heinzendorf (today in the Czech Republic), Austria, to a peasant family. His brilliance was apparent as a child, but as his parents could not afford to pay for his higher education. Mendel became a monk and continued his studies at the Augustinian monastery at Br$\ddot{u}$nn (today Brno, in the Czech Republic). Later he taught high school science and conducted research on plants in the monastery's garden. For several years he cultivated more than 20,000 pea plants, meticulously noting their characteristics. He described his findings on how plant traits are inherited in "Experiments with Plant Hybrids," a brief work which was published in 1866.

The brilliance of his theories was not recognized until the following century, when scientists finally acknowledged the importance of Mendel's experiments, especially their contribution to the theory of evolution. Although he was not familiar with chromosomes or DNA, Gregor Mendel is today called the "father of the science of heredity." He determined the concept of dominant and recessive genes and that plants receive certain "factors" (chromosomes) from each parent plant. Gregor Mendel died on January 6,1884.

20 Murasaki Street

Murasaki Shikibu (c. 978-1014) was a Japanese writer and the most famous author of the Heian period (794-1191) in Japan; she is regarded by many as the world's first novelist. Born into the Fujiwara family, a highly distinguished and cultured family in Japan, Murasaki was an aristocrat whose exact name is unknown; Shikibu may refer to her father, and Murasaki, which means "violet", is the name of the heroine in her novel, *The Tale of Genji*.

Murasaki's father was a scholar and a government official who recognized his daughter's intelligence and allowed her to study with her brother. After an early marriage and the birth of a daughter, Murasaki was widowed in 1001. Three years later, she became lady-in-waiting to the empress and soon thereafter began her *Diary* and most likely her novel, too. She kept a diary for two years and continued to work on her novel for several years. *The Tale of Genji*, long regarded as "the flower of Japanese literature," is more than 1000 pages long; divided into 54 chapters, the book has 400 characters and chronicles the lives and events of four generations. The protagonist, a fictitious Hikaru Genji, is perhaps modeled on one of Murasaki's Fujiwara relatives. The author's portrayal of Japanese court life is considered most accurate; her portrait of aristocratic women is especially descriptive of the myriad artistic talents of the women at court during the Heian period.

The Tale of Genji, meant to be read aloud, was an immediate popular success upon its release in 1011 and eventually translated into several languages, including English in 1935. A 1987 animated film was based on the book. Murasaki may have spent the latter part of her life in a convent; the exact date of her death is unknown. In addition to *The Tale of Genji* and the *The Diary of Murasaki Shikibu*, Murasaki also wrote a volume of poetry. Her novel, *The Tale of Genji*, continues to influence Japanese literature to the present day.

21 Newton Court

Sir Isaac Newton, whose *Principia* (1687) is acknowledged as the greatest scientific work ever written, was born in Lincolnshire, England, in 1642 (1643 according to the Gregorian calendar), the same year that Galileo died. Newton's father, who was uneducated and could not even sign his own name, died before his son's birth. A small and sickly baby, Newton had an unhappy childhood and did not do well in grammar school, preferring instead to devote his time and attention to mechanical devices, such as clocks and models of windmills. An uncle, however, recognized his abilities and arranged for Newton to enter Trinity College, Cambridge, in 1661, as a sizar, a student who received financial assistance in return for acting as a servant for other students.

At Cambridge, Newton studied Descartes, Hobbes, Boyle, Galileo, and Kepler, and, during this time, he developed a keen interest in mathematics. He received his Bachelor's degree in 1665 and then, when an outbreak of plague forced the closure of the university, Newton returned to his home in Lincolnshire. During the next two years, Newton formulated his revolutionary theories in mathematics, physics, astronomy, and optics, although he did not publish his ideas for several years.

In 1667 Newton returned to Cambridge; he received his master's degree and in 1669 was named Lucasian Professor of Mathematics (a position currently held by Stephen Hawking). Newton was not a popular teacher and sometimes lectured to an almost empty classroom.

A short, stout man with prematurely grey hair, Newton was the quintessential absent-minded professor who could sit for hours on the edge of his bed, thinking about his work. As a host (he never married), he was known to wander into another room and remain there, forgetting he had guests waiting. He was a religious man, humble and honest, yet he could not tolerate criticism or opposition. He zealously guarded his work and delayed publishing for fear of ridicule or rejection by his peers.

Newton's contributions to science are legion, and what follows is but a partial listing: he co-invented calculus (Leibniz is credited with inventing differential calculus); Newton also developed the theory of the propagation of waves, which he applied to determine the velocity of sound; in

the $Principia$, he formulated his three laws of motion, developed the theory of hydrodynamics, and presented the universal law of gravitation (he coined the term "gravity" from the Latin word "gravitas") that explained the elliptical orbit of the planets; in $Opticks$ (1704) he wrote of his discovery that white light is not homogenous but rather composed of various colors, as evidenced in the rainbow; Newton also designed the first reflecting telescope and an early model of the sextant.

A nervous breakdown in 1693 marked the end of Newton's research. Three years later he left Cambridge to accept a government position in London. He was elected president of the Royal Society in 1703 and held that position until his death. The first scientist to be knighted (in 1705), Sir Isaac Newton died in 1727; he was given a regal funeral and was buried in Westminster Abbey. The poet, Alexander Pope, wrote the epitaph:

> " Nature and Nature's laws lay hid in night; God said, Let Newton be! And all was light."

22 O'Keeffe Street

The American artist Georgia O'Keeffe is famous for her bold, detailed paintings of single flowers. Born in Wisconsin in 1887, O'Keeffe studied at the Art Institute of Chicago and later in New York, where she was taught imitative realism. The definitive influence on her artistic technique, however, was the approach of Arthur Dow, who believed that art should represent the artist's feelings and could achieve harmony through color, linear depiction, and shading of light and dark.

In 1916, photographer Alfred Stieglitz saw O'Keeffe's charcoal drawings from this period and exhibited them in his New York Gallery. Stieglitz agreed to support O'Keeffe, and they married in 1924. Five years later, O'Keeffe made her first summer trip to New Mexico. The lure of the southwest was irresistible, and O'Keeffe returned to New Mexico often to paint, buying a house there in 1940 and another one in 1945.

Stieglitz continued to promote and exhibit his wife's work until his death in 1946, whereupon O'Keeffe moved permanently to New Mexico. She continued to paint, in later years turning to pencil and watercolors. She worked until the age of 96, two years before her death in 1986. Although O'Keeffe's work has been sometimes criticized as mere photography, her influence on American art is undisputed. The largest public collection of her artwork can be seen at the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

23 Owen Court

Owen Court is named after one of the greatest Utopians, Robert Owen (1771-1858). A successful British businessman at an early age, Owen purchased several large cotton mills in New Lanark, Scotland, in January 1800. Utterly appalled by the working and living conditions of his employees, many of them children only five years old, who worked thirteen hours a day, Owen wrote: "What ideas individuals may attach to the term 'Millennium' I know not; but I know that society may be formed so as to exist without crime, without poverty, with health greatly improved, with little, if any misery, and with intelligence and happiness increased hundredfold...."

Robert Owen then embarked on a social revolution in New Lanark. He banned the employment of children under the age of ten and insisted that all children receive an education. He established a nursery school, a childcare center for workingwomen, free medical care, and good schools. He also improved the physical layout of the village by landscaping and arranged for recreational activities, such as concerts and dancing.After these innovative changes, production at the New Lanark mills increased, and Owen wanted his mills to be a model for other factory communities. He wrote several books and lectured throughout Britain about labor reform. Because of him, legislation finally passed in 1819 that limited the hours women and children could work in factories.

Nonetheless, Owen alienated religious leaders when he spoke of the divisiveness of sectarian religion. Spurned by many contemporary British politicians, Owen turned to America; he bought land in Indiana and in 1825 established New Harmony, a socialist community that attracted much attention but eventually failed. Undaunted, Owen continued his social reforms in Britain, especially advocating adult suffrage and the formation of a labor union for all workers. He died on November 17, 1858, in Wales, at the age of 87. Workers' rights that are today commonplace have their roots in the vision and tireless efforts of Robert Owen.

24 Perkins Court

Frances Perkins was the first woman Cabinet member in the United States. Appointed Secretary of Labor by President Franklin Roosevelt in 1933, Perkins was an avid social reformer who helped Roosevelt implement many programs of the New Deal. She supported the rights of working people, unemployment compensation, the minimum wage and child welfare.

Born 1882 in Boston, Perkins graduated from Mount Holyoke College in 1902 and received a master's degree in sociology from Columbia University in 1910. She held various labor positions in New York state government and was appointed the first woman Industrial Commissioner by Roosevelt when he was governor of New York.

As President Franklin's Secretary of Labor, Perkins supported progressive legislation such as the Fair Labor Standards Act and the Wagner Act that protected workers' right to organize. As chairwoman of the President's Committee on Economic Security, Perkins spearheaded development of the Social Security Act in 1935. Perkins continued to serve the government after Roosevelt's death; she resigned from Federal service in 1952 and died in 1965. Her written works include $A\ Plan\ for\ Maternity\ Care$ (1918) and $The\ Roosevelt\ I\ Knew$ (1946). Frances Perkins was inducted into the Labor Hall of Fame in 1988, and the Department of Labor Headquarters is named after her.

25 Russell Court

Bertrand Russell was born Bertrand Arthur William Russell in 1872 in Wales, Great Britain. His intellectual achievements and many acts of social activism earned him both reproach and acclaim. Because of his seminal contributions to the fields of mathematics and philosophy, Russell was awarded the Order of Merit by King George VI (1949) and the Nobel Prize for Literature (1950). Due to his staunch anti-war beliefs, Russell was dismissed (although later reinstated) from his teaching position at Trinity College, Cambridge, arrested several times and imprisoned. Even into his nineties, Russell continued his protests against war and the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

The grandson of Lord John Russell, who had served as Queen Victoria's Prime Minister, Bertrand Russell was orphaned as a child and raised by his paternal grandmother. He was educated privately by tutors and then studied at Trinity College, receiving two First Class degrees. His areas of interest were mathematics and philosophy, and he wrote several noted works on these subjects, including *The Principles of Mathematics*, *Principia Mathematica* (co-authored with Alfred North Whitehead), and *Introduction to Mathematical Philosophy*. He also discovered the Russell Paradox about set theory.

Russell's anti-war stance began with his opposition to World War I. Although he did support the Allied cause in World War II, he vehemently opposed nuclear arms. Russell joined Albert Einstein in denouncing the spread of nuclear weapons, and together they issued the Russell-Einstein Manifesto in 1955.

A social non-conformist, Russell was married and divorced several times. He chafed at any religious constraints, wrote "Why I Am Not a Christian" (1927), and regarded himself as an agnostic. His moral tenets angered conservatives in the United States, and he was unable to secure an academic appointment at City University in New York. His core convictions are most easily summarized in his own words: "Conquer the world by intelligence and not merely be being slavishly subdued by the terror that comes from it. A good world needs knowledge, kindliness, and courage, a fearless outlook and a free intelligence. It needs hope for the future." Bertrand Russell died in 1970, at the age of 97.

26 Schubert Court

The enduring lyric quality of his prodigious musical output testifies to the genius of Franz Schubert, who was born on January 31, 1797. Schubert's family was musical; his father and brothers all played musical instruments. As a child Schubert studied piano, violin, organ, singing and composition. By the age of seventeen, he had written string quartets, a symphony, and an opera. By the following year, he had composed many additional works, including three masses, several songs, and two more symphonies.

Franz Schubert's life, however, was not a charmed one. He suffered from financial difficulties because his work was not appreciated by contemporaries, and from syphilis, the disease that caused his untimely death at the age of thirty-one.

Much of Schubert's work was not published and indeed not even performed until the late 19th century; many pieces, including forty songs, were only accidentally discovered years after his death. Among his masterpieces are the String Quintet in G Major, the piano sonata in B-flat, the Fifth Symphony, the "Trout" Quintet, and the famous Unfinished Symphony, so-named because he chose to limit the work to two exquisite movements instead of adding another (possibly) mediocre two.

Because Schubert revered Ludwig Beethoven, he kept a deathbed vigil in 1827, as the great German composer lay dying. A pallbearer at Beethoven's funeral, Schubert asked that upon his death he be buried next to Beethoven. One year later, on November 19, 1828, Franz Schubert died. His friends honored his request and buried him in the cemetery in Vienna, near the grave of Beethoven.

27 Thompson Court

Benjamin Thompson, Count Rumford (1753-1814), was an American born scientist and inventor who is credited with discovering that heat is a form of motion rather than a form of liquid matter. (In 1849, James Joule established the correct definition of heat: a form of energy transferred from one body to another as a result of their temperature difference.)

As a boy in Massachusetts, Thompson excelled in mathematics, astronomy, and mechanics. He studied medicine briefly at Cambridge University before returning to Massachusetts where he attended lectures at Harvard University. A staunch Tory, Thompson fled to England after the outbreak of the American Revolutionary War. In London, he rose to the office of under secretary of state while pursuing his interest in science. One of his early inventions from this time was a method by which ships could communicate with each other while at sea. He was elected to a fellow of the Royal Society in 1779, at the age of twenty-eight.

In 1781, Thompson returned to America where he organized and commanded a British regiment as lieutenant colonel. Two years later, back in England, Thompson was given permission to serve the Austrian government in its war with Turkey. During this conflict he met the Elector of Bavaria. Aspiring to become the Elector's aide-de-camp, Thompson decided to return to England and resign his commission. Then, after receiving a knighthood from King George III, Thompson traveled back to Bavaria for more than a decade of military and civil service. In 1791, he was awarded the title of Count Rumford of the Holy Roman Empire. Returning to England, he presented his seminal paper, "Enquiry concerning the source of Heat Which is Excited by Friction" to the Royal Society in 1798. Thompson relocated to France in 1804, where he died ten years later.

In addition to his work on heat, Thompson is remembered for several inventions, such as the calorimeter, the photometer, and various practical inventions for the household, including the kitchen range, pressure cooker, drip coffeepot, double boiler, and the eponymous Rumford fireplace, a smokeless central heating system. A generous philanthropist, Thompson bequeathed much of his estate to the Royal Society, to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and to Harvard University where he endowed the Rumford Chair of Physics.

28 Twain Street

Mark Twain, born Samuel Langhorne Clemens in 1835, was an American author whose humorous writings about life on the Mississippi River have endeared him to generations of readers. Clemens grew up near the banks of the Mississippi River; he left school at the age of twelve and became a printer's apprentice. In his early twenties, he worked as a riverboat pilot (*Life on the Mississippi*, 1889). At age 25, he traveled by stagecoach to join his brother in the Nevada Territory (Roughing It, 1872); while there Clemens adopted the penname Mark Twain (a river boatman's term for "marking two fathoms") and wrote articles for the local paper.

He moved to San Francisco in 1864, where he wrote the short story, "The Jumping Frog of Calaveras County" (1865). Next, Twain became a travel reporter and wrote about countries in Europe and the Middle East (*Innocents Abroad*, 1869). Returning to America, he gave frequent well-attended lectures that, along with his writings, earned him a reputation for witty observations of human nature and for satirical commentary on human hypocrisy.

In 1870, he fell in love with Olivia Langdon. After marrying, they settled in Connecticut and raised a family; Twain remained utterly devoted to his wife for the rest of his life. He continued his writing, publishing *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* (1876) and its sequel, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (1884). Ernest Hemingway wrote of the latter, regarded as Twain's masterpiece: "There is nothing before; there has been nothing as good since."

Twain was an international literary sensation. His lectures and writings made him financially secure, and in 1907 he received an honorary doctorate from Oxford University. His family life, however, turned tragic. After losing an infant son, two daughters and his wife to illness, Twain grew serious, and his writings acquired a darker tone. As the year of his birth had marked the appearance of Halley's comet, Mark Twain was certain that the comet's next scheduled appearance in 1910 would coincide with his death, and so it did. Mark Twain died at the age of 75 on April 21, 1910.

29 Urey Court

Harold Clayton Urey was an American chemist who earned the Nobel Prize in 1934 for his isolation of deuterium. Born on April 29,1893, Urey received his B.S. in zoology from the University of Montana in 1914, and his Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of California in 1923. He then spent a year with Professor Niels Bohr in Copenhagen and accepted the position of Associate Professor of chemistry at Johns Hopkins University. In 1926, he married Frieda Daum and three years later was appointed Associate Professor in chemistry at Columbia University, becoming Professor in 1934. At Columbia he was also the Director of War Research, Atomic Bomb Project, from 1940 to 1945. After the war, Urey was named Distinguished Service Professor of Chemistry at the Institute of Nuclear Studies, University of Chicago. After one year as George Eastman Visiting Professor at Oxford, Urey accepted the post of Professor-at- Large, University of California at San Diego, in 1956. Urey's works include *Atoms, Molecules and Quanta* (2 volumes, 1930), which he wrote with Arthur Edward Ruark, and *The Planets: Their Origin and Development* (I 952). Professor Urey died in 1981.

30 Virgil Court

Publius Vergilius Maro, later known as Virgil, was born in northern Italy on October 15, 70 B.C. His parents were probably farm owners who provided their son with a good education. His rural upbringing, however, still influenced his writings, especially the $Eclogues$ and the Georgics. Known by his fellow Romans as "the Poet," Virgil's masterpiece is the epic $Aeneid$, a poem that took eleven years to write and chronicles the journey of Aeneas, a Greek hero, and the origins of Rome.

In 19 B.C., Virgil began a voyage to Greece to do further work on the $Aenid$. He fell ill with a fever, however, and returned to Italy, where he died in Brundisium, modern day Brindisi. The emperor Augustus fortunately ignored Virgil's dying wish that his unfinished $Aeneid$ be destroyed. Instead the emperor, a patron and friend, ordered that the manuscript be edited and preserved.

Virgil and the $Aeneid$ have inspired writers and poets throughout the ages. Virgil was Dante's "Sweet Master" in $The\ Inferno$, and the muse for Edmund's Spenser's $The\ Faerie\ Queene$ and John Milton's $Paradise\ Lost$. Victorian poets Matthew Arnold and Alfred Lord Tennyson also acknowledged their debt to Virgil, who was and is still regarded not only as the finest Roman poet but also as one of the greatest poets ever. Tennyson's elegant tribute $To\ Virgil$ (1889) commemorated the nineteenth centenary of Virgil's death:
I salute thee, Mantovano,
I that loved thee since my day began.
Wielder of the stateliest measure
Ever moulded by the lips of man.

31 Whistler Court

James Abbott McNeill Whistler was an expatriate American artist who is famous for his "Arrangement in Grey and Black, No. 1: The Artist's Mother" (Musée d'Orsay, Paris). During his lifetime he was known throughout Europe for his artistic brilliance and innovation, and for his elegant, flamboyant lifestyle. In addition to painting, Whistler also achieved fame for his many etchings and for his interest in the Japanese arts.

Whistler was born in Massachusetts on July 14, 1834, and spent some time in St. Petersburg, Russia, where his father worked as a civil engineer. After returning to the U.S., he briefly attended West Point but could not adjust to military life. Knowing he wanted to be an artist, Whistler left for France in 1855, never to return to America.

In Paris, and later in London and Venice, Whistler studied and associated with the great contemporary artists. Although Impressionism was popular at the time, Whistler preferred a different method that echoed Courbet and Corot. Later he developed his own technique that is reflected in the portrait of his mother.

In London in 1877, the writer John Ruskin criticized one of Whistler's paintings, a landscape in the Japanese style. Ruskin accused the artist of charging two hundred guineas for "flinging a pot of paint in the public's face." Whistler sued Ruskin for libel, and in court when the artist was asked whether he could justify the high price he charged for a painting that needed only two days' work, Whistler retorted, "No. I ask it for the knowledge I have gained in the work of a lifetime." Whistler won his libel suit, but he was bankrupted by the costs and moved to Venice for more than a year.

When he returned to London, he married Beatrix Godwin; she died from cancer eight years later. He never recovered from the loss nor regained his artistic productivity. He died in London in 1903, at the age of sixty-nine.

32 Whitman Court

Whitman Court is named after the American poet Walt Whitman (1819-1892) whose *Leaves of Grass* is regarded as one of the most revolutionary books of poetry. Two of his best-known poems are "When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom'd" and "O Captain! My Captain!" which is an elegy for Abraham Lincoln.

Whitman was born in New York; his father was a carpenter and his mother, to whom he was especially close, was illiterate. One of nine children, Whitman left primary school at an early age to work to support his family. He was self-taught and a voracious reader of the classics, including the Bible. At the age of 22 he became a journalist and eventually founded a newspaper and edited several other papers.

In 1855 he published *Leaves of Grass*, containing 12 untitled poems; he revised and added to the book throughout his lifetime, and the final edition contained 400 poems. *Leaves of Grass* was not an immediate success because of Whitman's controversial subject matter (much of his poetry was regarded as "indecent" for many years) and his revolutionary style (he eschewed traditional meter and rhyme).

Although his poetry was initially more appreciated in Europe than in the United States, in his later years Whitman was recognized on both sides of the Atlantic for his poetic genius. His unconventional poetic format, his openness, and his passion for democracy and liberty made Walt Whitman not only an American icon but also a literary giant who inspired a generation of poets, including Allen Ginsberg and Jack Kerouac.

33 Young Court

Young Court is named for Charles Augustus Young, American astronomer born in New Hampshire in 1834. Young's area of expertise was spectroscopy, a technique that he applied to his study of astronomy, especially eclipses. Young became a professor of astronomy at Princeton University (1877-1905) and authored several books, including *The Sun* (1881) and *Manual of Astronomy* (1901). He was an authority on the sun and the first to use diffraction grating, a device that splits light into its composite colors or wavelengths, to measure the rotation of the sun. Charles Young died in 1908.

Interestingly, British physician, physicist, and Egyptologist Thomas Young (1773-1829), no relation to Charles Young, also worked with light waves and the colors of light. In fact, Thomas Young confirmed the wave nature of light several years before Charles Young was born. Thomas Young's work in surface tension and elasticity is familiar to mathematicians and engineers who use Young's modulus, named in honor of the British scientist.

34 Zola Court

Zola Court is named after $\acute{E}$mile Zola, a great French writer who gave birth to and legitimatized the status of the French intellectual. Zola was recognized in his lifetime as a fearless social crusader and an important literary innovator. Born in Paris on April 2, 1840, Zola grew up in southern France and was a classmate of Paul C$\acute{e}$zanne. His father died when Zola was seven years old, and $\acute{E}$mile and his mother moved back to Paris. At the age of nineteen, after he failed his baccalaureate exam twice, Zola could not find work and was destitute. According to legend, he subsisted on sparrows that he trapped outside his window. He finally found a job with a publishing firm. In order to earn more money, Zola also wrote fiction and eventually founded the school of naturalism in literature, writing some twenty novels.

In 1867 he published his first major work, $Th\acute{e}r\grave{e}se\ Raquin$. Zola addressed various social issues in his novels, including the subject of prostitution and sexual exploitation in $Nana$ (1880), and the squalid mining conditions of northern France in $Germinal$ (1885).

In 1898, Zola confronted anti-Semitism in the French military with his famous "J'accuse." In this open letter to the president of France, Zola not only defended Captain Alfred Dreyfus, who had been tried and falsely convicted of treason in 1884 and sentenced to Devil's Island, but he also accused the judges of colluding with the army to falsify evidence that would have exonerated Dreyfus. Zola was sentenced to jail for libel but escaped to England, returning to Paris several months later when the French government finally agreed to reopen the Dreyfus case.

On September 28, 1902, Emile Zola died at the age of sixty-two from carbon monoxide poisoning. (Some speculate that anti-Dreyfusards deliberately blocked the chimney in Zola's apartment to cause his death by a build-up of the toxic fumes.) France mourned the loss not only of a great novelist but also of a brave man who was "a moment in the human conscience." Zola's remains now lie in the Pantheon, next to those of Voltaire, Rousseau and Hugo.