

Courtlandt Place

THE ROOTS OF HOUSTON

In the late 1960s, a reporter from the *Houston Post* asked a Courtlandt Place resident to explain the neighborhood's mystique. The response was simple: "The roots of Houston are in Courtlandt Place. From here, they spread all over town." Established in 1906, Courtlandt Place became home to many of the business leaders, physicians, attorneys, civic figures & philanthropists who were helping shape a rapidly growing Houston. Their influence extended far beyond the gates of the boulevard, touching nearly every aspect of the city's commercial, cultural & civic development.

The legacy of those residents can still be seen throughout Houston today. They helped advance the development of the Houston Ship Channel & Port of Houston, laying the groundwork for the international commerce that would become central to the city's economy. They helped establish an early Houston airport that would ultimately become part of what we know today as William P. Hobby Airport. Their support helped nurture institutions such as The Kinkaid School, while others were instrumental in the founding and development of the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. In medicine, Courtlandt Place residents helped establish hospitals & medical organizations and played a role in bringing M. D. Anderson to Houston, contributing to the beginnings of the world-renowned medical community the city is known for today. Commerce, education, transportation, medicine, culture & philanthropy all bear traces of the people who once called this single Houston boulevard home. In many ways, the Houston we recognize today grew outward from the ambitions and institutions they helped create.

While its residents helped drive Houston's transformation, Courtlandt Place remained a rare constant amid the city's growth. As Houston expanded around it, generations of homeowners fought to protect the boulevard, its architecture & its distinctive sense of place, creating a culture in which residency carries a responsibility extending beyond the ownership of an individual home. 10 Courtlandt Place, the first new construction within the enclave since 1937, offers a rare opportunity to carry that tradition forward. Conceived with a deep respect for the scale, symmetry & architectural language that have long defined the neighborhood, the home's composition pays homage to the past while thoughtfully contributing a new chapter to its history. As *Images of America: Houston's Courtlandt Place* observes, "A difference may be that these neighbors are conscious of the responsibility they hold as caretakers of one of Houston's greatest architectural treasures." In that spirit, 10 Courtlandt Place represents more than the opportunity to own a remarkable home; it is an invitation to steward one of Houston's most enduring legacies for the generation that follows.

Source: Sallie Gordon & Penny Jones, *Images of America: Houston's Courtlandt Place* (Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2009).