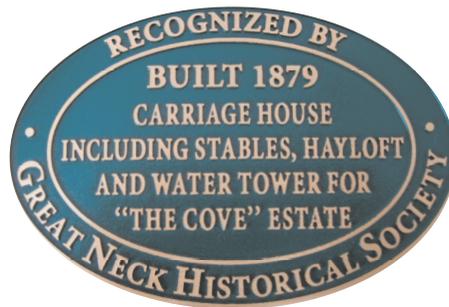


HERITAGE RECOGNITION PROGRAM To Identify and Honor Great Neck's Most Notable Homes



ONE COVE LANE, KINGS POINT, NY



The home at One Cove Lane is the former carriage house, stables, hayloft and water tower built c. 1879 on the property of “The Cove,” an eleven-acre estate on West Shore Road owned by Cord Meyer II (1854–1910) and his wife, Cornelia Meyer (1856–1939). “The Cove” was their main residence, built on the shorefront of what is now Cove Lane.

Cord Meyer II was the son of a German immigrant, Cord Meyer, of Dick & Meyer, an old firm that refined sugar in Cuba. On his father’s death, c. 1891, Cord Meyer II inherited a portion of his father’s \$7,000,000 fortune. He became a wealthy financier, industrialist and developer of large tracts of land, including the areas now known as Elmhurst and Forest Hills. He was active in politics, serving as Chairman of the New York State Democratic Party. His friends included President Grover Cleveland.

Cord Meyer II’s son, Cord Meyer, Sr. (1895–1964), was a senior diplomat and real estate developer. He is listed as one of the original Early Birds of Aviation, a group of pioneer pilots who flew solo before 1917.

His grandson, Cord Meyer, Jr. (1920–2001) fought in the assault on Guam with the U.S. Marine Corps, and was awarded the Purple Heart and Bronze Star. His dispatches from the war were published in *The Atlantic Monthly*, and one of his short stories won the O. Henry Prize in 1946 for best first-published story. He was a founding member of the United World Federalists, where he fought for controls on the use of atomic weapons. He served 26 years at the Central Intelligence Agency where he was in charge of the covert operations branch.

“The Cove” main house was demolished in 1950, and the property became Cove Lane. On June 6, 1969, the original carriage house that remained, at One Cove Lane, was sold to William Nielson for \$52,000. Two years later, on March 22, 1962, Nielson sold the house for \$53,500 to Leonard Goodman of Goody Products, Inc., a leading manufacturer of hair products. The company was founded by Leonard’s grandfather, Henry Goodman, who emigrated to the U.S. from the Ukraine shortly before 1907. Title of the house was transferred to Henry Katz in June 1981, and then to David and Diane Rein, the present residents, in August 2009.



That's fairly interesting...but there's more.

Cord Meyer Jr. — the one who was in the CIA — married Mary Eno Pinchot, a socialite and painter, in 1945. She and Cord Jr. moved to Washington, D.C. when he worked for the CIA, and were divorced in 1958. According to a book written about her, *A Very Private Woman*, one of her friends said that, after the divorce, Mary became “a well-bred ingenue out looking for fun and getting in trouble along the way. Mary was bad.”

Mary went to Vassar College, and during a dance at Choate she met John F. Kennedy. She also knew Jackie Kennedy when they were neighbors, near Hickory Hill. Years later, in October 1961 when Mary was living in D.C., she visited John F. Kennedy at the White House—and their relationship became intimate. Mary reportedly had “about 30 trysts” with Kennedy, and it was said that she had an influence on Kennedy’s policies.

After JFK’s assassination, she told Timothy Leary that she feared for her life. And she told a friend that she was keeping a diary...and asked the friend to safeguard it if anything should happen to her. Mary reported several times that she thought someone had been in her house....

In October of 1964, eleven months after the assassination and two weeks after the publication of the Warren Commission report, Mary was murdered along the tow path in the Georgetown neighborhood of Washington, D.C. An arrest was made, but the alleged killer was acquitted of all charges, and the murder remains unsolved—though there has been speculation that the CIA was involved. A book with that allegation, *Mary's Mosaic: The CIA Conspiracy to Murder John F. Kennedy, Mary Pinchot Meyer, and Their Vision of World Peace*, by author Peter Janney, was published in 2012,

The story includes other intriguing details, including the fact that Mary’s sister, Antoinette, was married to Ben Bradlee of the *Washington Post*. And the whereabouts of Mary’s diary: Was it stolen? Was it burned??

You never know where you’ll end up when you research a house — and what you’ll find along the path!

