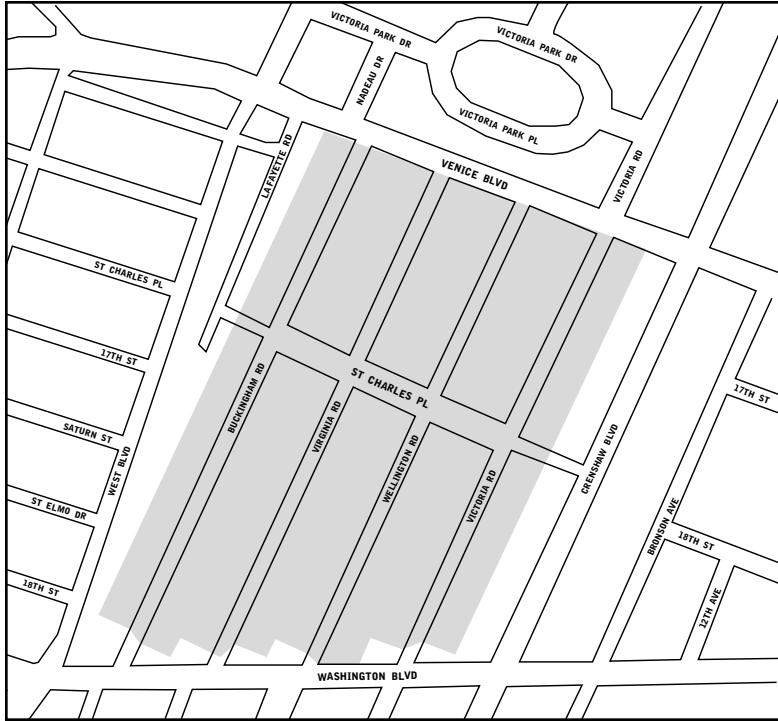


Lafayette Square (2000)



THE AREA THAT IS NOW LAFAYETTE SQUARE WAS developed by banker George L. Crenshaw in 1912. “The Square” was designed as an elegant residential park, with the broad avenue of St. Charles Place as its centerpiece. Reportedly based on the Spanish park surrounding the Municipal Theatre in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, the area attracted the rich and famous, including W.C. Fields, Fatty Arbuckle, boxer Joe Louis, art collector Norton Simon, and George Pepperdine (founder of Pepperdine University). In the 1950s, millions saw the neighborhood as the home of the quintessential TV family: the exterior of 1727 Buckingham Road served as the Cleaver residence on *Leave It to Beaver*.

The 10-block HPOZ includes 236 homes that span the entire original Lafayette Square development. Most homes were built in the 1910s and 1920s, in popular styles of the time such as Craftsman, Italianate, Spanish Revival, and American Colonial Revival. Several later homes, such as that of architect Paul R. Williams, were built in the Modern style.



Photos: Larry Underhill