

Agenda

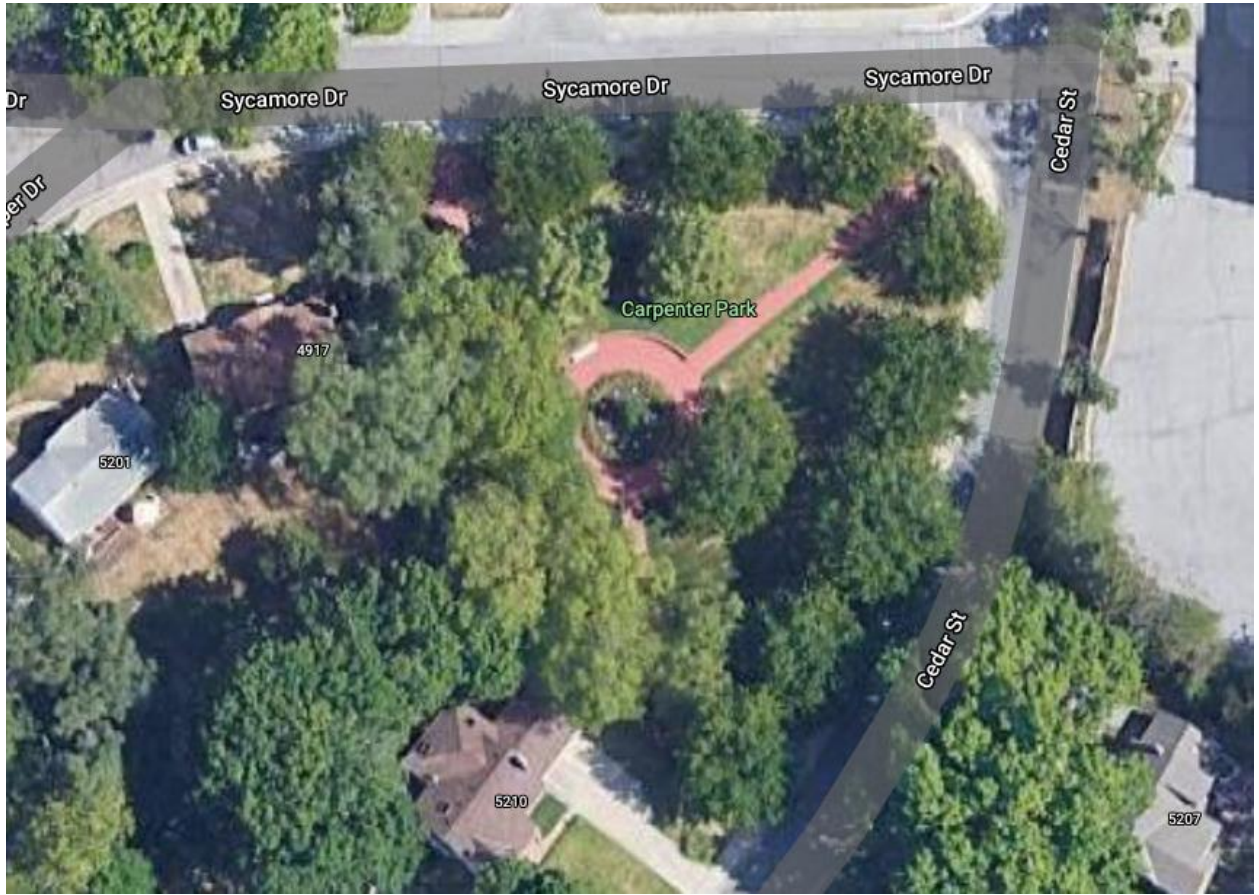
Roeland Park Historical Committee

11th meeting 12/02/2021 3:30 pm

1. Attendance
2. Reschedule of December Meeting which falls on 12/23?
3. Next Steps: copy editing. Update Chris
4. Next Step: Interpretive sign mockups. Update Ian
5. Next City Council presentation on 12/20







IMMIGRATION

Born in 1823 in County Meath, Ireland, John Roe immigrated to the United States in 1850. He married Mary Roseanna Clarke, the daughter of Irish immigrants in 1855. In 1857, John was granted a homestead patent in Daviess County, Missouri where the couple soon moved and started a family. They eventually had six children. John farmed corn and raised cattle. The farm prospered and he purchased additional land including hundreds of acres in Saline County, Missouri.

In 1882, John purchased 260 acres in northeast Johnson County, Kansas from Alexander Johnson, son of Shawnee Methodist Indian Mission founder Thomas Johnson. Here he began a new cattle ranch for both the Kansas City and Chicago markets. When the cattle were ready for market, they were driven down what is today Johnson Drive to the rail terminal in Merriam. Over the next few years he purchased more land from the Johnson family until he owned about 1600 acres, including most of the land of what is today Roeland Park.



DEVELOPING JOHNSO

In 1890, the Roe family moved to Johnson and John began construction of the family home at the northwest corner of Johnson Drive and Merriam. The two-story, 16 room Roe home, named "The Cedars", would be a fixture of the area for more than a century. John was an advocate for the development of north

