



**PRIVATE HOUSTON: CLASSICAL VARIATIONS
FROM STAUB AND BRISCOE TO CURTIS & WINDHAM**

March 12 - 15, 2020

*Arranged by Houston Members of the Texas Chapter of ICAA
and Classical Excursions*



Bayou Bend, John F. Staub, Architect, 1926

Houston, the fourth largest city in the U.S. and the only major American city without a zoning ordinance, has the unenviable reputation of being one of the nation's most out-of-control urban landscapes. Yet, there is another Houston or series of "private" Houstons that tell compelling architectural stories about this Texas city and how it has evolved.

The Houston associated with the classical residential work of architects like John F. Staub, Birdsall P. Briscoe and Frank J. Forster and landscape architects, such as the Olmstead Brothers and the neighborhoods of Shadyside, Broadacres and River Oaks encompasses the private cities that most visitors miss.

The dignity, civility and amplitude of 1920s and '30s country houses, set in lush, Southern woodland gardens, represent an early twentieth-century vision of Houston as a garden city, far removed from the kind of city it became in the second half of the twentieth century.



(l.) *Sleepy Hollow House & Garden*, Frank T. Forster, Architect, 1929;
Curtis & Windham, Architects, 2009

(r.) *Memorial Residence*, Virginia W. Kelsey, Architect, 2016

Members of Houston's present vibrant community of classically creative minds have over time contributed immensely to the extraordinary beauty of the city's finest residential communities, including the work of architects William Curtis, Russell Windham, Allan Greenberg, Virginia Kelsey, Dillon Kyle and Anthony Frederick; interior designers Kara Childress, Cullman & Kravis, Lucia Benton, Chapman Design, Michael Parten and Ann Wolf; landscape architects Ruth London, Fleming & Sheppard and McDugald-Stelle, among others.

The Institute of Classical Architecture & Art, in collaboration with Classical Excursions are pleased to invite you to join "Private Houston: Classical Variations from Staub and Briscoe to Curtis & Windham." This is a rare opportunity to experience, during an extended weekend, an exclusive tour of some of the best of Houston's classical residences. In addition, private lunches and dinners are planned for this special excursion.



(l.) *Waverly Court*, Dillon Kyle, Architect; Lucia Benton, Interior Designer, 2014

(r.) *Kuldell House*, John F. Staub, Architect, 1928

Architectural historian Stephen Fox will give an opening lecture, as well as taking on the role of guide throughout the tour. He serves as a lecturer at the Rice School of Architecture and is the author of the definitive book, *The Country Houses of John F. Staub*, as well as the *Houston Architectural Guide* and *Rice University: An Architectural*

Tour, among other works. He is also the recipient of the 2014 Arthur Ross Award for History/Journalism/Editing/Publishing.

Overnight accommodations for three nights have been arranged at the five-star Lancaster Hotel, a member of Historic Hotels of America, sponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.



Knollwood House & Gardens, Curtis & Windham, Architects, 2003

For further information, please contact Tom Hayes at tom@classicalexursions.com or 413-243-4155 or Lani Summerville at lani@classicalexursions.com. Tour price: 1800.00 per person based on single occupancy with a \$300.00 single supplement.