

The Grove Redfield Estate

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An Historical Perspective

The stately home now known as The Redfield Estate first served as a home to descendants of original Grove settler Dr. John Kennicott. Bertha and Robert Redfield had first lived at The Grove in a home quite close to the Kennicott House. After that house burned, Bertha and her second husband, Paul Peterson, had a new home built in 1929.

That house – “Windy Pines” - now known as The Redfield Estate, was designed by George G. Elmslie, a follower of the Louis Sullivan School of Architecture. The Prairie style of architecture influenced Elmslie’s placement of the west wing, and its fireplace and balcony at an unusual angle to the rest of the house. Overall the effect suggests a northern European country house. Its variety of line, leaded glass windows, stone, stucco and slate materials make it quite picturesque. In addition to its many distinctive design features, it also had a formal rose garden on one side of the house and a “natural” environment intended to attract wildlife on the other. Even today, you may catch a glimpse of deer or other woodland creatures through the windows.

In 1932, Bertha Redfield’s daughter, Louise, moved into the house with her husband, Donald Culross Peattie. The Peatties were authors who found the house and its surroundings a wonderfully productive environment. Among the works completed during the years they lived in the house was Donald Peattie’s 1938 book, *A Prairie Grove*, which was based on his experiences here.

The Redfield Estate, along with The Grove, was designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1976.



Top: MacGuineas Wedding, circa 1930, at the Redfield House.

Bottom: The Redfield Estate is the perfect setting for the most romantic day of your life.

For more information or to schedule an appointment to tour the Redfield Estate, call (847) 298-0095.

🌸 *The Redfield Estate is perfect for wedding ceremonies and receptions, as well as special celebrations, business meetings and retreats.*