

LINDEN REDEVELOPMENT

THE STRUGGLE TO SAVE SOUTH LINDEN



Once a proud, thriving suburb, the neighborhood has fallen victim to urban blight and a sky-high crime rate. Now the city and some concerned residents and business owners are trying to turn the area around. It won't be easy.

1982

Linden has been in crisis for years. These articles from Columbus Monthly are 44 and 27 years ago.

1999

Saving Linden (again)

After years of struggle and failed rehab attempts, the embattled community finally can sense positive change: economic development, spiffed up streets and, perhaps most importantly, a new attitude.

Cleveland/Myrtle



1940

Cleveland/Myrtle



1999

Cleveland/Myrtle



2015

Cleveland/Myrtle



2026

Fresh Market

- In addition to not being able to spell, the “Eagel” Market was notorious for changing the dates on expired meat/dairy and selling alcohol in a dry precinct.



Fresh Market

- A community based fresh food market had been successfully developed on Parsons Avenue.
- Since Nationwide Children's was being a housing initiative in Linden, they thought replicated the market would benefit the community and support their investment.



Cleveland and 11th

- In 1996, then City Council President Michael Coleman created a nonprofit real estate acquisition corporation call Columbus Urban Growth.
- They were tasked to assemble land in and around the intersection of Cleveland and 11th Avenues.
- 86 parcels were eventually assembled that led to the creation of a mixed-use urban infill development.
- Public sector uses were recruited as they would be able to weather economic downturns.

Cleveland & 11th - Southeast

- COTA opened its first transit center at this location, replacing a motorcycle bar.
- The facility had childcare, an ATM, and second floor office space.



Cleveland & 11th - Southwest

- The only building at the intersection to be renovated and incorporated into the revitalization plan was the Crosstown Building.
- It features the Linden Café on the ground floor with second story offices.



Cleveland & 11th - Southwest

- The building also featured art and gateway signage.



Cleveland & 11th - Southwest

- A new Neighborhood Policing Center was also constructed on this corner.
- It contains space for community meetings.



Cleveland & 11th - Northwest

- 11th Avenue school was closed, then caught fire.
- Demolished and became the site of CMHA's headquarters.



Eric Albrecht/Dispatch

Once the Eleventh Avenue School, this building now is an embarrassment to the neighborhood.

Cleveland & 11th - Northwest

- State Farm Insurance and Dollar General both opened on this corner, but both businesses have closed and the buildings were purchased by CMHA.



Cleveland & 11th - Northwest

- On the norther edge of the CMHA site, seven modular single-family homes were constructed.
- They were designed as move up housing and sold for \$90,000-\$120,000, which at the time, was the most expensive in the neighborhood.

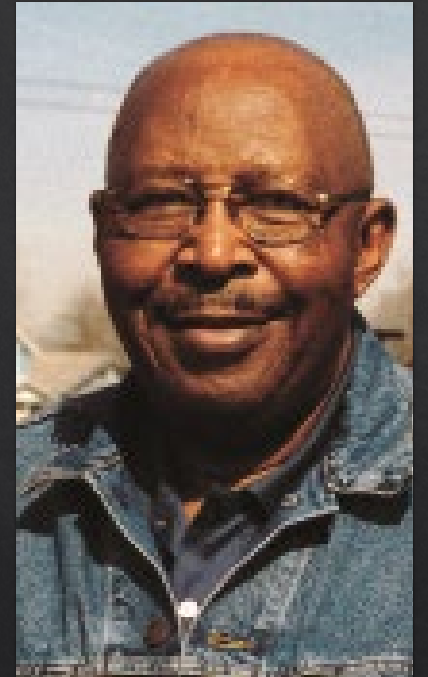


Cleveland & 11th - Northeast

- The neighborhood CDC wanted to build a facility the honored long-time community advocate Clarence Lumpkin, created office space for themselves, and brought retail services to the community.

Clarence D. Lumpkin Point of Pride Building

- ◆ Mr. Lumpkin posed for this photograph at an event celebrating the demolition of several vacant structures. The site will be the future home of the Clarence D. Lumpkin Point of Pride Building.
- ◆ The name "Point of Pride" comes from a speech Mr. Lumpkin gave to City Council in 1974 where he indicated that Linden needed a building for the people. A point of pride that they could look to.
- ◆ Mayor Coleman liked to jokingly refer to Mr. Lumpkin as the "Mayor of Linden."
- ◆ Mr. Lumpkin passed away on January 28, 2019 at the age of 94.



Cleveland & 11th - Northeast

- This two-story, 21,000 square foot building featured office space on the second floor.
- The initial retail tenants were largely recruited through networking at the International Council of Shopping Centers.
- The building is now home to the City's Department of Neighborhoods.



Utility relocation

- There were over 30 different companies with overhead utility wires at the intersection.
- Burying the wires was cost prohibitive, so they were moved from the Avenues to the alleys.



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