

# Levittown

Pennsylvania

“The Miracle City”

This is one community that can well be called a “Miracle City”. Five years ago it was a sprawling farm country where thousands of carloads of spinach, broccoli and other greens were grown. Today, this Quaker farm site is the world’s most modern city. It is bisected by four-lane parkways and contains a population of nearly forty thousand people from all parts of the world, who occupy nearly ten thousand homes. Levittown has a concentrated shopping center which can accommodate 5,000 cars. It has ultra modern school and churches of all denominations. The four municipalities that make up Levittown coordinate their efforts in administering fire and police protection. A joint Municipal Authority handles the water and sewage system. Public transportation is provided by Neibauer Bus Co. of Bristol, Pa., and Trenton-Phila Coach Co. of Trenton, N.J.

The builder, Levitt & Sons, plans to have a community of 70,000 when his program is completed. Builders from many countries have visited Levittown. Their remarks and interest can be summed up by two words- “fantastic” and “unbelievable”.

It is located 25 miles from Philadelphia and 65 miles from New York City. It is served by the main line of the Pennsylvania Railroad and borders on the new Pennsylvania Turnpike, Routes U. S. 1 and 13. Being only a stone’s throw from the Delaware River, which soon will be linked with the rest of the world by a deeper channel, promises Levittown a more fantastic expansion than its beginning. All this of course is predicted on the fact that it is only four miles from the world-famous United States Steel plant, The Fairless Works, which sparked the phenomenal boom of the Delaware Valley.

Levittown, Pa. is the nation’s biggest pre-planned community since l’Enfant laid out Washington in 1790. No mere checkerboard array of separate dwelling units, it is a complete and integrated city, planned almost down to the last shrub. The blueprint calls for a city of 16,000 homes complete with schools, churches, shopping centers and the nation’s most generous supply of recreation and community facilities. Levittown is laid out in neighborhoods, ranging in size from 500 to 700 homes. Each neighborhood is surrounded by a circumferential road having access to a thorough highway at only one point. Criss-crossing Levittown, the through highways divide it into master blocks, each containing three or four neighborhoods. No homes front on the highways. The residential streets, all curved so as to eliminate the monotonous gridiron pattern, feed into the circumferential drives. The plan provides for school sites and recreation areas at or near the center of each master block. Every home, the shopping centers, schools, recreation areas, streets and through highways are completely landscaped to realize the builder’s dream of a garden community.

Courtesy of Clarks Levittown and Fairless Hills City Directory (1950’s)









































