

# ROXBOROUGH

## ROXBOROUGH HISTORY

Roxborough is located in the Northwest section of Philadelphia, “up the Ridge” from Manayunk. Its rich history can be traced back to the 1600s when Quakers farmed the land, and by the 1800s, employees of Manayunk industries called Roxborough home. Often times, Roxborough is incorrectly identified as a “suburb” of Philadelphia; the Act of 1854 incorporated Roxborough into the City of Philadelphia. Lower Roxborough is characterized by dense residential housing built in the early 1900s, similar to other urban neighborhoods in Philadelphia. Upper Roxborough’s development in the 1950s follows a more suburban typology, with single family homes and larger lawns.



*Recent commercial development*



*Welcoming Gorgas Park*



*Public transit connections*

## TOUR NOTES

## ROXBOROUGH OF TODAY

Roxborough is a mix of historic charm and urban living. Anchored by Ridge Avenue, this commercial corridor is an eclectic mix of long standing businesses, modern retail storefronts, and local eateries that serve the neighborhood. Gorgas Park is Roxborough’s playground, providing an outdoor venue for a variety of family events and fund raisers.

Only 10 miles from Center City Philadelphia, Roxborough has one of the best transportation connections in the region. Four SEPTA bus routes serve the community, along with two train stations for the R6 Regional Rail that links Center City and Norristown, PA (Montgomery County). Ridge Avenue and Henry Avenue are parallel arterials through the neighborhood, and both nearby I-76 and Route 1 (Roosevelt Boulevard) provide linkages to the region, including Center City, King of Prussia, the PA Turnpike, and the Greater Northeast neighborhoods of Philadelphia.

## CURRENT PROJECTS

The Roxborough Development Corporation (RDC) stresses the value of “preserving a smaller community like Roxborough in a large urban city and in achieving a successful balance between commercial and residential activities within the neighborhood”. RDC maintains an office in the heart of The Ridge, and has become the voice of Roxborough business development over the past 10 years.

**Ridge Avenue Revitalization Master Plan (June 2004):** Detailing the long-term vision of the 2.5 mile Ridge Avenue commercial corridor from Main Street to Domino Lane.

**Ridge Avenue Streetscape Project (2009):** Developing and implementing a streetscape design, making the business corridor more cohesive and pedestrian friendly.

## SPEAKER INFORMATION

Bernard Guet is the current Executive Director of the Roxborough Development Corporation, where he strives to fulfill RDC’s mission to maintain Roxborough’s beauty and promote community planning and development in a clean, attractive, safe community, while focusing on business services within the area. Mr. Guet was born in Paris, France, and graduated from the Hotel Management School in Paris. Before joining RDC, he enjoyed a long career in hotel management throughout North America.

## LEARN MORE @

Roxborough Development Corporation  
[www.roxborough.us](http://www.roxborough.us)

2004 Ridge Avenue Revitalization Master Plan  
[www.roxborough.us/ridgeMasterPlan.pdf](http://www.roxborough.us/ridgeMasterPlan.pdf)