



Mary Baker Eddy Historic House

A Beacon of Preservation Excellence

Nestled in the heart of Chestnut Hill, the Mary Baker Eddy Historic House at 400 Beacon Street is more than just a beautifully restored home—it's a powerful story of legacy, vision, and the transformative impact of historic preservation.

This stately 1880s estate was the final home of Mary Baker Eddy, trailblazing founder of Christian Science, and a remarkable figure in American religious and literary history. From her second-floor study, Mrs. Eddy finalized key writings, led the growth of her church, and even launched *The Christian Science Monitor*, a Pulitzer Prize-winning newspaper still in publication today. Her home was not just a residence—it was a hub of progress, creativity, and influence that extended around the globe.

Thanks to the passion and dedication of Longyear Museum, the property has undergone a meticulous restoration that redefines excellence in preservation. With a team of skilled professionals and craftspeople, the Museum brought this historic site back to life. Every element—from the slate and copper roofs to the hand-made wallpapers and period furnishings—was chosen or crafted to reflect the home's appearance during Mrs. Eddy's residency at the end of her life.

The result is nothing short of breathtaking. Visitors step back in time as they walk through 28 rooms restored down to the finest historic detail. Nineteen original carpet patterns were faithfully recreated, 175 antique light fixtures rewired and reinstalled, and hidden scraps of wallpaper and carpet uncovered during restoration were used to replicate original colors and textures. The home seamlessly integrates modern systems like climate control and fire suppression—without compromising a single historic detail.

But this project isn't just about beauty—it's about meaning. Longyear Museum's restoration broadens the public's understanding of what preservation can be: immersive, educational, and deeply inspiring. It protects not just architecture, but a woman's enduring legacy and the vibrant story of a movement that shaped history.

Through generous donations and collaboration, the site now welcomes the public as a living museum and community resource. The restoration also preserved and enhanced the 8.5-acre landscape, complete with original carriageways, gardens, and Mrs. Eddy's pergola, offering visitors a peaceful, reflective experience in the very environment she once cherished.

The Mary Baker Eddy Historic House is a shining example of how preservation enriches communities, connects us to our roots, and inspires future generations. It is not just a nominee—it is a treasure of the Commonwealth. Cast your vote for this extraordinary site and help honor a legacy lovingly restored for all to experience.