

This hospital was named for a Victorian gentleman who made his millions as a brilliant manager of vaudeville and burlesque in turn-of-the-century Baltimore. Like many another millionaire of that era, James Lawrence Kernan sought to do the proper thing with his wealth. In 1910, he bought this estate, Radnor Park, and gave it to the pioneering "Hospital for Relief of Crippled and Deformed Children," founded in 1895 by Dr. R. Tunstall Taylor and located in a converted residence at 6 West 20th Street. The hospital moved to its present location in 1911 and changed its name in gratitude to the donor.

The Radnor Park Mansion House that stands north of here originally accommodated the entire hospital. In the early 20th century, the Victorian exterior of the mansion was altered in a combination of the Greek and Colonial Revival styles. The cupola, two-story porch, brackets and pediment atop the front projecting bay were removed.

The hospital has expanded several times. After the development of antibiotics and the discovery of the polio vaccine in 1955, the hospital's focus broadened to include the treatment of adults. The hospital is now one of the most famous orthopedic centers on the east coast.

CAPTION: Radnor Park Mansion House in 1911, (built c. 1865)
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