

PROGRAM



Look Inside Lakewood

Sunday, September 8; 1 – 6 pm

2024 House Tour

presented by



*The Lakewood
Historical Society*

Look Inside Lakewood

We are so pleased to be back once again showcasing the history and architecture of our community during the “Look Inside Lakewood” House Tour. The houses were chosen to provide you with a sense of the rich diversity that contributes to Lakewood’s special character.

In 1952, Margaret Manor Butler founded the Lakewood Historical Society. Proceeds from today’s tour will help support the society’s mission to collect, preserve and interpret our history and to maintain its two National Register properties, the Nicholson House (1830’s) and the Oldest Stone House (1834). The Nicholson House, open for today’s tour, is also available for event rentals.

The House Tour Committee is grateful for everyone involved with today’s tour including:

- The homeowners who have graciously opened their homes.
- The businesses who sponsored the event. Please help us thank them by supporting their businesses.
- The Lakewood community who nominated many of the beautiful homes featured today.
- The City of Lakewood for their continued support of the Lakewood Historical Society.
- The hundreds of volunteers without whom this event would not have been possible.

Thank you for attending today’s event and for your support. We hope to see you again in 2026!

Lauren Smigelski, Vicki Smigelski
House Tour Co-Chairs



Note from the Lakewood Historical Society Director

What a thrill it is to be a part of the 2024 House Tour! This is my first Tour experience, and it has been incredible to see it all come together. I would like to extend a major thanks to all of the sponsors, homeowners, volunteers, to the committee, and in particular to Vicki and Lauren Smigelski for organizing this incredible event. It takes a lot of planning for over a year, but I think you will be very impressed with the results. We have some wonderful houses for your enjoyment this year that highlight Lakewood's history and the creativity of its residents.

We do hope that you will stay in touch with us throughout the year, if you do not do so already. Please consider attending one of our programs, joining as a member, or volunteering in some capacity. Our Society runs on engaged community members like you, so we would love to have you on board! Thank you for your support through attending the House Tour, and we hope to see you again soon.

With great appreciation,
Robert Shimp

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2024 House Tour Planning Committee...

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House Program Descriptions:	Vince O'Keefe

Special thanks to...

Designer, **David Meeker**, for our beautiful materials

Artist, **Eric Dull**, for painting each house as a gift to the homeowners

Keep Lakewood Beautiful, for allowing signs in Adopt-A-Spots

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Jennifer and Cody Miller

Traci and Dave Nolan

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1

12601 Lake Avenue

The house at 12601 Lake Avenue was built in 1911 by a member of a well-known West Side Cleveland family. Catherine Baehr Killius was the sister of Hermann C. Baehr, who served as Cuyahoga County Recorder (1904-09) and

Cleveland Mayor (1910-12). The Baehr family also had a prominent role in Cleveland's brewing industry. Catherine's husband, Jacob Killius (1845-1908) worked at the Jacob Baehr Brewery, later the Mrs. J. Baehr Brewery, from the 1860s into the 1890s as a brewer, foreman, and superintendent. Catherine built the Lake Avenue house, moving from their Detroit Avenue house in Cleveland's Detroit-Shoreway neighborhood. During the 1910s, the household included her son, Jacob Harry Killius; daughter Madeline; a brother, Emil Baehr, a former brewmaster at Baehr Brewing Co.; and likely the two live-in staff persons employed at their former house.

Upon Catherine's death in 1931, the house passed to her son, J. Harry and his family. J. Harry was the road service department manager at the Cleveland Automobile Club and the chief sail race judge at the Cleveland Yacht Club. The house was sold in 1945 for \$19,000 to John and Helen Tarnavsky, who lived in the house until 1972. John Tarnavsky was born in Ukraine and came to the U.S. at a young age with this family. He founded the Ukrainian Savings & Loan Co. in about 1919, and continued his 50-year banking and legal career through the Parma Savings Association and West Side Federal.

The current owners of the house, Dave and Traci Nolan, purchased the property in 2014 and have added an impressive array of what they call "industrial Arts and Crafts" touches that complement the home's historic features. Dave is a self-described "tinkerer" whose artistic style (that could be called steampunk, "darkitecture," or the more personalized "Dave'ant garde") are on full display throughout the house.

As you approach the stately Tudor with its original slate roof, note the brick driveway and sidewalk made with repurposed bricks from Lorain, Ohio. Also



enjoy the gargoyle lamp post, which is the first of many playful pieces of art the property contains.

After entering the front door, enjoy the original stained glass windows in the foyer and the original floors throughout the first floor. The large French doors flanking the central hallway are also original. In the living room to your left, the north wall contains an original fireplace with a high mantel and original Grueby tiles. Also note the radiator covers that double as wooden tables throughout the house. The living room also features two tables made by The Nine 5 Gallery from repurposed wood from the house's original carriage house (now the garage). On the central table, enjoy the piece of art made from molten "pig iron" that was reclaimed from the Cuyahoga River. The living room also features a lamppost and a bellows from the Firestone foundry.

Off the living room is the solarium or "sunroom" that features more original woodwork as well as built-in cabinets. As you exit the room, note the paperweight doorknob on the door across from the bathroom. The bathroom contains a feast of artistic details made by the owner—e.g. the shelves, waste basket, toilet brush holder, and soap dispenser, among other gadgets. Also note the antique sink and the 1901 toilet made by the E.W. Fisher Company in Cleveland. (And the barbed wire in the toilet seat cover!)

The kitchen contains another smorgasbord of visual details like the Vulcan stove combination, the recipes embedded in the tiles over the stoves, an antique lantern, and a copper patina ceiling. The adjoining breakfast nook is the former butler's pantry and includes the first of several artistic litter boxes made by the owner for their cats. The nook also includes what used to be the servants' stairway.

The dining room is referred to as "the Mona Lisa room" for obvious reasons once you look at all the paintings. The paintings were made by a variety of the owners' artist-friends. Of special note is the paint-by-number Mona Lisa made by local artist Jeff Ritchie. The room also features a glorious chandelier from Poland and a "butler buzzer" under the dining room table.



As you reach the second floor of the house, to your far left is the owners' home office, which they designed to resemble "an old abandoned foundry office." Enjoy the exposed lath-and-plaster wall, foundry mold wall art, and "manhole cover" table. The room also contains a variety of "found" industrial objects that have been turned into functional and/or decorative art—e.g. the retrofitted fan pulley on the ceiling, the trolley cart used for shelving, and the closet door covered with industrial wallpaper. The full bathroom next to the office features a 1900 dental cabinet complete with antique tools of the trade as well as a Thomas Crapper toilet the owners got from England!

A second bedroom on this floor serves as a guest room and contains a variety of Central American ceramic art. A third bedroom is a former nursery that leads to a Jack and Jill bathroom featuring an antique scale, an artistic metal light fixture, classic subway tiles, and cabinet doorknobs made from repurposed knob and tube wiring. Off that bathroom is the primary bedroom which includes an original fireplace in the corner to your left.

The third floor of the house contains more metal artwork, this time in the form of steam handles on the wall of what used to be the servants' quarters. The first room also features an old ice box and a push button wall light, followed by the bedroom and the bathroom, which contains the original clawfoot tub. Behind the door marked "Utility Closet" lies an enormous extra room that contains the original red pine floors and an original cedar closet that has been repurposed as a utility closet. On the way back down to the second floor, note the owner's artsy way of opening the door via a pulley-and-chain apparatus.

Upon exiting the house through the backdoor, straight ahead you will see the garage which used to be the carriage house. Enjoy the expansive deck, seating area, and gazebo, as well as the brick trail through the backyard leading back to the driveway.



Vintage photo from the county archives





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② 1046 Nicholson Avenue

This Colonial Revival house, built in 1921, has only had three owners. The first owners, Rudolph H. and Hazel C. Eckenroth, owned the house for more than 55 years. The deed from the Lake Avenue Realty Company for the Overlook Park

Subdivision required that the new house have a minimum value of \$5,000. The deed also specifically retained the gas, oil, and mineral rights under the lot for the realty company. Hazel was born in Xenia, Ohio, and Rudolph was born near present-day Lakeside Avenue and East 9th Street in downtown Cleveland. They were both age 25 when they married in 1910 in Cuyahoga County and were married for more than 60 years.

Rudolph spent more than 60 years locally in the automobile and trucking industry. He was an early automobile dealer in Cleveland and also raced motorcycles and automobiles, mostly at the Glenville racetrack. He was also a real estate developer, the owner of a trucking company, Acme Delivery, and held several patents related to the development of automobiles and internal combustion engines. During the 1950s, he raised show horses on a farm he owned in North Royalton. Although he had only a tenth-grade education, at the age of 82 he was awarded an honorary engineering degree from Thiel College in Pennsylvania.

The second owners of the house were Albert E. and Barbara Kovalik. Barbara was a social worker and Albert was an engineer and project manager in the petroleum industry. They enjoyed a 51-year marriage and owned the home for 35 years (from 1977 to 2012).

Connie Justis and Rose Alcaraz are just the third owners of the house. They bought it in 2012, but a recent three-year renovation (and “labor of love”) with the help of Karen Weber Design has achieved a glorious restoration of the house’s original glory. The striking exterior features original windows - including



two rounded windows—as well as original wood siding, rounded rooflines, and galvanized metal gutters. The color palette of gray, tan, and black has a traditional feel yet nods to the modern art that adorns many of the walls inside.

After enjoying the original screened-in porch, step into the living room and attached sunroom that both feature original hardwood floors, windows, crown molding, and a fireplace. The front foyer contains the original door and original leaded and beveled glass windows. Near the foyer, the dining room features original built-in glass cabinets, hardwood floors, crown molding, and sconces. The dining room table, chairs, and buffet were made to fit the room by the original owners of the house in the 1920s.

As you ascend the staircase to the second floor, note that the original landing has been extended to create a larger space before you reach the beautiful outdoor deck. On the deck, note the aerial view of the landscaped backyard complete with several fountains. Also on the deck, enjoy a better view of the home's galvanized gutters near the roofline. Back inside on the second floor, the primary bedroom features a cozy coffee bar behind the entry door. The room's original doorway was moved during the renovation so the room could more comfortably showcase the bed in front of the original fireplace. A wall was also added to the left of the fireplace to create a large closet, though the closet French door with beveled glass was repurposed from the ground floor to provide extra light for the bedroom.

The renovated primary bathroom was once the home's "sleeping porch," hence the original windows on the far wall above a window seat. The bathroom features modern amenities like a heated floor and a steam shower with a tiled ceiling. Crown molding and wainscoting were also added to several parts of the second floor to supplement the historic character of the house. A second bathroom on the second floor contains many original features, including repurposed subway tile. There are also original built-in cabinets and two other bedrooms on the second floor.



Vintage photo from the county archives



As you descend the stairs and enter the updated kitchen, note the pot filler faucet, backsplash, painted cabinets, and Corian countertops. There is also an adorable, high-tech “doggy door” near the oven! Much renovation occurred where the kitchen meets the dining nook, as the space was extended and window seats installed under the original windows. Note the slats on the back of the seats for radiator heat. Between the dining nook and the living room, don’t miss a peek into the first-floor original bathroom, which includes a narrow original window that brightens the space.

In the renovated basement den, take in the large, original stone fireplace! To your left, note the original window escape. If you look upwards through the windows, note the grate on the porch above, another detail of the house that brings natural light into many spaces. Attached to the den is what might be called the “schnauzers’ room,” as it serves as a mini-kennel for the owners’ several dogs. Enjoy the “doggy” half-doors and the schnauzer-themed wallpaper. Follow the hallway to the laundry room which was once the “coal room,” and the far window is where the coal chute used to be. Note the architecture around the other basement windows near the ceiling that show the care taken to maximize natural light from the outside. The basement also contains a renovated bedroom and the original door to the basement from the outside. The “schnauzer room” outside door into the basement was added during the renovation.

The steps from the basement into the backyard are original though the concrete has been redone. Once at the top, enjoy the beautiful outdoor kitchen and spacious back porch added by the owners. Also, be sure to explore the landscaped garden deep in the backyard, which features an original sundial. The entire yard is surrounded by the original sidewalls as well, though the original bricks needed to be supported and sealed with stucco. Note the original metal “half-fence” that lines the top of the wall. The backyard also contains a new garage that fits the same footprint as the original garage. Other efforts to match the original house include the garage’s wood siding, color scheme, and custom-made gutters.



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③ 1286 Thoreau Avenue

The narrow, deep lot was creatively reimagined when this unusual Craftsman stone bungalow was built between 1915 and 1919. The lot originally extended from the New York, Chicago, St. Louis railroad tracks northward about 300 ft.

An older, small wood frame house near the railroad tracks faced Detroit Avenue. The occupants used Whitnall Court – later Cohasset Place (demolished) – for street access and crossed the pair of busy railroad tracks to reach the house.

For the construction of the stone house the owner and builder creatively took advantage of the Thoreau Road development, which dead-ended at their lot. The older house was removed, and the new house was sited to blend with the Thoreau Road streetscape. Howard A. and Dorothy I. Kyle were early owners of the house, and perhaps the first owners. They were living on the property by 1917 and lived there until 1927. Howard Kyle was a salesman for the Empire Varnish Co., who became the company's vice president by the mid-1920s. The couple lived in the house with their teenage daughter and Mr. Kyle's mother.

In the early 1920s, Thoreau Road was connected to the adjacent Irene Avenue, which started at Detroit Avenue and ended just north of the railroad tracks. The street project used a small corner of the Kyles's lot and created a through street from Detroit Avenue to Clifton Boulevard. At the corner of Thoreau Road and Clifton Boulevard, note the two stone pillars that read "Thoreau Rd," welcoming you to what used to be a cul-de-sac.

Upon approaching the two-bedroom stone house today, enjoy the large stone porch that extends across the entire front of the house and includes decorative wrought iron lamp posts. The home's inner front door and sidelight windows are original.



The owner, Dave Kermode, recently completed a massive renovation with Hurst Design that created a more open floor plan and reversed the locations of the dining room and living room. The renovation included moving the original mantel and fireplace to a newly vented location in the living room to your right with new built-in shelving. To your left is the dining area, which features an antique dining room table and light fixture moved from another house on Thoreau in the past. The first floor features much original woodwork and original beveled windows. The recently renovated kitchen contains new windows on the south wall.

To the left of the dining room, enter the first-floor primary bedroom that features original woodwork and windows. As you turn to the right you'll see a new walk-in closet. Upon entering the primary bathroom, take note of the original door complete with original key and lock design.

As you leave the large, updated kitchen, you enter the home's freshly tiled back foyer which used to be the home's kitchen. In the backyard, enjoy the park-like large space, firepit, and recent landscaping. In 2019, the owner had a new garage built with shake shingle siding to resemble the tones of the house.

Door to Door History Walking Tours

Thanks to a generous Neighborhood Opportunity Grant from the Healthy Lakewood Foundation, we are excited to announce the continuations of walking tours! Door to Door History tours traverse both sides of Detroit Avenue from the Haber Center to the Lakewood Public Library, sharing the road's history through slides via tablet. The tours are limited in space and run on select Tuesday mornings at 9:30 AM.

We hope to catch you on a tour on September 10 or 24!

Due to limited spaces, RSVPs are required.

You can sign up at our website, www.lakewoodhistory.org.



1286 Thoreau Avenue Photos

Framing in the mudroom and new kitchen

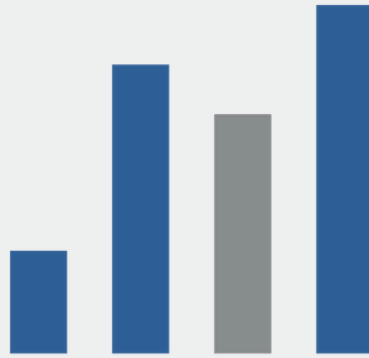


Original kitchen - Now the mudroom and powder room



Pre-renovation exterior shots





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④ 13926 Clifton Blvd

The first owners of this 1908 Craftsman bungalow were William D. and Maizie Brown, who lived in the house until the mid-1930s. William D. Brown grew up on a farm in Athens County, Ohio, and Maizie Veer Rogers grew up in Owensboro,

Kentucky, an Ohio River town in the western part of the state. They both lived in Cincinnati by the mid-1890s and wed in Athens County in 1897.

William, employed by a lumber dealer in Athens, relocated to Cleveland with his wife and toddler in about 1903. William spent the next 30 years working as a salesman and manager in the wholesale lumber field. The house was built just as the couple had their second son. They moved from one of Cleveland's earliest tall apartment buildings, the six-story Jennings Apartments on West 14th Street in Cleveland's Tremont neighborhood. William's mother bought the new house for the couple, and William and Maizie bought the house from her in 1914. The couple raised three sons at the house.

The current owner of this Craftsman house is Heather Rudge, a historic preservation consultant whose restoration expertise is evident throughout the house. Upon first sight of the property, lush hydrangeas dominate the eye and drape the sidewalk leading to the porch steps. Also note the exposed rafter tails lining the eaves, one of many Arts and Crafts details of the house. As you enter through the original front door, take in the feast of glorious, original quarter-sawn oak details. Nearly every inch of the living room to your right is original to the house—e.g. the fireplace, built-in seats, windows, crown molding, and floors. Also, the antique furniture, lighting, and pottery collection complement the architecture. The same is true of the dining room to your left,



Vintage photo from the county archives

which includes a coffered ceiling with antique and reproduction lighting, leaded and beveled windows, built-in cabinets, picture molding, a plate rail, and battens on the walls. Note the owner's collection of plates and tiles on the rail, as well as the period wallpaper that enhances the historic ambiance of the room.

When you climb the stairs to the second floor, to your right is a bedroom that could be called the “ginkgo room” for its playful details featuring that leaf design. The room contains two twin beds with repurposed fireplace mantels for headboards! Part of the room includes a laundry area with creative decorations—German table-top Christmas stands—on the wall. Down the hall from that bedroom is an expanded, updated bathroom that includes a marble shower and an Arts and Crafts sink cabinet. Note the Arts and Crafts-styled rugs throughout the second floor.

The home's primary bedroom is enormous because it likely originally served as a ballroom. Ballroom details include the original maple wood floors (maple is harder than oak and better for dancing shoes) as well as the U-shaped built-in bench that lines the front dormer wall. The owner added a wall to the right to create a walk-in closet that features an antique door. To the far left, another new wall creates a dressing room area.

Oldest Stone House Open for Tours!

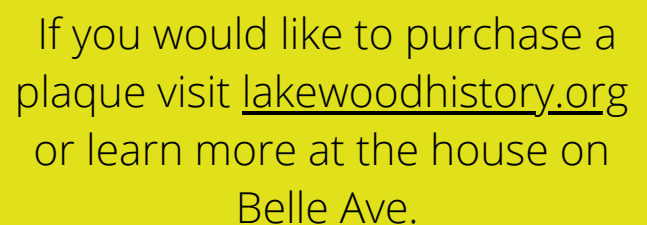
There are two more months to visit the
Oldest Stone House Museum in 2024!

The House will be open for tours on Wednesdays and Sundays from 1-4 PM through October 30. Whether you have been many times or have yet to visit, stop by for a guided tour from one of our excellent docents!



The home's kitchen was extended during renovations, as the section near the back door used to be an enclosed porch. The custom Arts and Crafts cabinets reflect the owner's antique furniture collection and the tile backsplash the owner's art pottery collection. Note the raised windows over the cozy booth-style banquettes, as well as the streamlined radiator on the wall. As you exit the home, Arts and Crafts details continue in the beautifully landscaped backyard complete with a pergola and pond. The new, wood-sided garage has exposed rafter tails and brackets that mirror the house. In addition, even the fence surrounding the yard has an intricate, Arts and Crafts design built by the owner and her cousin.

The Preservation Committee of the Lakewood Historical Society began the Historic Lakewood: Century Home Recognition Project in 2017. The goal of the Project is to recognize the amazing number of homes in Lakewood that are Century Homes and to encourage the owners of these homes to celebrate the significance of living in a one-hundred-year-old home with a plaque or a 100th birthday party for your home!



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5

13984 Clifton Blvd

This Dutch Colonial house was built as a two-family house in 1910. This side-by-side unit design is less common in Lakewood than the up-and-down unit version. The house was constructed by Cleveland builder John M. Zink.

The first owners of the two-family house was Charles F. and Olive M. Below. They married in 1909 and lived on West 87th Street in Cleveland. Charles was a buyer for the William Edwards Co. wholesale grocery company. They lived in the east side unit for several years, but sold the property in 1918. In 1920 Charles was a department manager at the Weideman Co. wholesale grocery firm and the couple lived on French Avenue.

During the 1910s the unit on the west side attracted persons with white collar jobs, such as an architect, photographer, stenographer, and businessmen. The second owners, the Halliday family, owned the house into the mid-1930s. The Halliday family lived in the University Circle area of Cleveland during the 1920s. Beginning in the late 1940s, property owners regularly lived in the east unit. In 1972, the house sold for \$37,500.

The current owners, Cody and Jennifer Miller, bought the property in 2019 and converted it to a single by 2020. As you gaze at the exterior of the house, note the rounded arch gable window near the peak. Also note the two new stacked porches on the west side of the front exterior. The area of the lower porch used to contain the entryway for the residents of the western side of the double.

Upon entering the house, note the original leaded, stained-glass window to the right. And straight ahead, look down at the pet/child door! The dominant feature of the first floor is the exposed brick wall that used to separate the double. The entire first floor has been opened horizontally, and the western side of the house has been opened vertically to bring in much light and space.



Note the reconstructed fireplace and mantel in the entry way that was modeled after the original, which you can view on the other side of the wall in the living room. Much of the house features original hardwood floors, and the office on the east side of the house includes French doors salvaged from another Lakewood house. The first floor also features a large, renovated kitchen and dining room as well as a modern “mudroom” leading to the back door.

The staircase leading to the second floor is new. At the top, when you turn to the left to enjoy the balcony overlooking the dining room. Note the still-visible line on the exposed brick wall where you can see the stair line going up to the third floor. Originally, each unit had three bedrooms; now the house has five bedrooms, three on the second floor and two on the third floor. On the second floor near the front of the house, enjoy the primary bedroom complete with a second-floor porch and fully renovated primary bathroom. The third floor of the house features a large playroom and two more bedrooms.

Fall Sale!

The Lakewood Historical Society will hold its Fall sale on **Saturday, October 12 from 9 AM- 2 PM at the Haber Center.**

We will have fall-themed items for sale, in addition to furniture and salvage pieces, including doors and light fixtures, from

Lakewood homes. These items are one of a kind and will go fast, so be sure to arrive early! All proceeds go to supporting the Historical Society's operations and building maintenance efforts.



**Upcoming drop offs will be help on two upcoming Saturdays:
September 28 and October 26 from 10 AM -1 PM at the Haber Center.**

Fall/Halloween and Holiday season-themed items will be greatly appreciated!

13984 Clifton Blvd Photos

Pre-renovation exterior



Vintage photo from the county archives



Opening the ceiling on west side of the house



During construction - Fireplace in entry and main stairwell



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⑥ 13216 Detroit Avenue *Church Sanctuary*

The Church of the Ascension at 13216 Detroit Avenue was founded in 1875 (when Lakewood was called Rockport) as a mission of Trinity Church, an Episcopal church in Cleveland. It is the oldest continuously worshipping congregation in Lakewood and will celebrate its 150th anniversary in 2025. The cornerstone of the present church, the second church on the site, was laid in 1916. The building was completed in 1918, thanks in large part to the fundraising efforts of the Ladies Guild of Ascension.

Many locally famous Lakewood families have attended the church, including the Nicholsons, Kirtlands, Frys, Hirds, Beaches, Halls, and Coutants, among many others. Also, automaker and diesel engine developer Alexander Winton was married in the church! Since 2013, Rev. Vincent Black has been the church's leader.

The church's architect, John William Creswell Corbusier (1877-1928), combined several English architectural styles in the final design. Corbusier was a native of Rochester, NY and was educated in Rochester and later in Paris at the Ecole des Beaux Arts. He worked in the office of NYC architect Cass Gilbert and was the lead draftsman for New York City architect Harold Van Buren Magonigle when the firm won the competition for the McKinley Memorial in Canton. Corbusier moved to Cleveland in 1905, married shortly thereafter, and then spent two years in France studying Gothic cathedrals.

Corbusier became a national authority on Gothic church architecture and worked in association with Boston architect Ralph Adams Cram on the Euclid Avenue Presbyterian Church (now Church of the Covenant built in 1909) in Cleveland, and with Boston architect Henry Vaughan on the Amasa Stone Chapel (1909-11) on the Case Western Reserve University campus in Cleveland. Corbusier was the architect for at least 30 churches throughout the U.S. and also designed homes for several prominent Clevelanders. In Lakewood, in addition to Church of the Ascension, Corbusier designed Trinity Lutheran Church (1921, 16400 Detroit Avenue) and Lakewood Baptist Church (1917, 14321 Detroit Avenue).

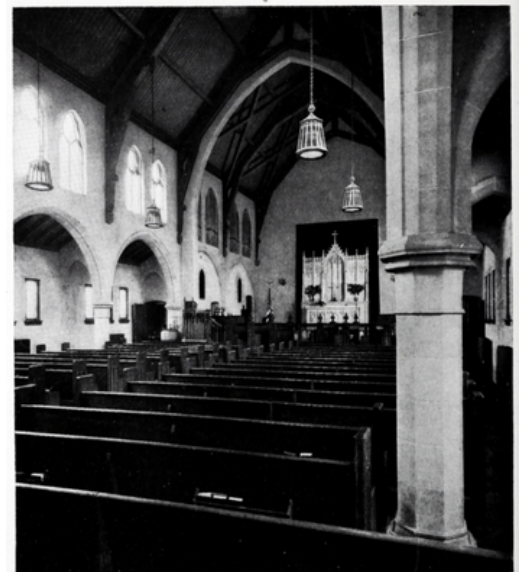


The builder of the Church of the Ascension, James W. Chrisford (1862-1929), was born in Sussex, England and emigrated in about 1884. He was the president of the Chrisford Construction Company and erected a number of notable buildings in Lakewood and Cleveland's West Side. Chrisford was a member of the Lakewood Village Council (1910-11) and later director of public works (1918-19). He was also the architect and builder of the Lakewood Masonic Temple (1915-16, 15300 Detroit Avenue), as well as the commercial buildings at 15201-11 Detroit Avenue (1915) and 15724-26 Detroit Avenue (1921).

As you approach the church, enjoy the many Gothic decorations that adorn the brick and stone facade. As you enter, note the original front door and sea of original woodwork and details. Before proceeding to the sanctuary, you are encouraged to visit the balcony above the entrance to get a better view of the multi-storied rows of stained-glass windows. The upper-level windows comprise the "story of Jesus."

On the church's interior, the Cleveland and Lakewood-based Theodor Kundtz Company built the pews, pulpit, lectern, communion rails, and chapel altar. Hungarian immigrant Theodor Kundtz (1852-1937) established his cabinetmaking factory on the west side of the Cuyahoga River in Cleveland's Flats in 1878. Kundtz's rapidly expanding business manufactured sewing machine cabinets for the White Sewing Machine Co. In about 1900 the company expanded and built a large factory in Lakewood. In addition to sewing machine cabinets, over the next half century Kundtz expanded into the production of other wooden products, including bicycle wheels, automobile and truck bodies, woodwork, church furniture, auditorium seats, and school desks. In the early 1900s, he employed 2,500 people.

At the church sanctuary, note the detailed woodwork of the pulpit, lectern, Bishop's chair, and sedilia (seating area). Above the sanctuary is a faux stained-glass light, and to the upper right are the original organ pipes, some of which date back to the 1840s. Also note the Shields of the Apostles along the second level of the church. The newer lights above were donated by a church member. After entering the chapel to the left of the sanctuary, note the columbarium along the west wall and the stained-glass windows on the south wall featuring St. Paul next to St. Stephen.



Vintage photo from the county archives





⑦ 13216 Detroit Avenue *Rectory*

The rectory behind the church (at 13134 Detroit Avenue), the second rectory on the site, was completed in 1926. The builder was John J. Baker, a general contractor, who lived at 1570 Olivewood Avenue in Lakewood when the rectory was built. The original rectory was a wooden structure built in 1898 but razed in the 1930s. Rev. Wallace M. Gordon and his mother were the first family to live in the brick rectory.

Enjoy the fresh landscaping leading to the original arched front door. As you enter the brick building, note the original oak floors. While ascending the stairs to the second floor, also note that the stairs are made of “tiger maple” wood, which has a much different grain than oak. As you reach the second floor landing, to your far left is the family room. Attached to that room is the first of two Jack and Jill full bathrooms on the second floor. The second bedroom serves as an office, and the third and fourth bedrooms are across the main hallway.

Back on the first floor, enjoy the living room and its added gas fireplace, followed by the sunroom and then a screened-in back porch. On the porch, note the large green space behind the property that includes a playground. The home’s original oak floors continue into the dining room. The kitchen has been renovated, and seven layers of flooring had to be removed in the process!

As you exit the kitchen through the side door, note that the small bathroom on your left used to serve as the location for the home’s ice box. In the side yard, enjoy the private patio that features a firepit and gravel seating area.



⑧ Nicholson House - 13335 Detroit Ave

During the House Tour our very own Nicholson House will be open for guests.

Restrooms are available for use during the tour at this location.



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1462 Belle Avenue

Nannie C. and E. Wilbur Harrison had this house built in 1913 in The Belle Avenue Allotment, a large subdivision which included all the houses on both sides of Belle Avenue from Detroit to Madison Avenues. The Lakewood Land

Improvement Company required that the new house have a minimum value of \$3,500. The builder was The McKinley Company, a downtown Cleveland-based company that developed subdivisions and built individual houses. The couple moved to the house with their two young children. E. Wilbur was a high school teacher. The family stayed only until 1916, and the property had five owners in its first twenty years.

The family with the longest tenure in the house was Bertram D. and Olive J. Boyd. Family members lived there from 1934 to 1970. Bertram Boyd spent a 32-year career as a federal government electrical engineer, working for many years at the Post Office Department. He retired in 1956. Bertram's wife Olive died in 1952. She was active in a number of Lakewood fraternal and community organizations.

In 2021, a house fire caused significant damage to the front porch and exterior of the house, including the front bay window. Shortly after the fire, LakewoodAlive and the City of Lakewood partnered to help bring the fire-damaged house back to life. Current owner Dana Paul, who has had four previous properties on this Tour, has renovated the property extensively, beginning with the welcoming front porch whose steps extend into the front yard.

To keep the front texture of the home looking uniform after the fire damage, the owner repurposed many cedar shake shingles from the back porch to use on the front porch and exterior of the house. He also took great pains to mirror how the original porch looked, including adding new rafter tails and an arched

ceiling! Both the exterior and interior front doors are original except for the leaded glass, which had to be replaced due to the fire.

In the foyer, enjoy the grandfather clock and the new windows throughout the house. Note that they are divided-light windows with individual panes of glass, which resemble how the original windows would have looked. In the living room to your left, most of the oak floor is original, though some of the floor near the front bay window had to be replaced due to fire damage. The wood-burning fireplace insert has been added.

On the second floor, the main center hallway leads to three bedrooms and a full bathroom as well as a laundry room. Note the original painted doors with their original glass doorknobs. The primary bedroom is the second door to your left and includes several new built-in dressers created by the owner using the nooks often found in century homes. The primary suite also includes a “walk-through” closet and full bathroom with a double vanity and walk-in shower. (The home now contains four bedrooms and four full bathrooms.)

As you ascend to the third floor, enjoy the 9-foot ceilings, large overhead fan, and bright walls and carpeting. The room includes a large, walk-in closet and another full bathroom with vertical shower tiles.

Upon returning to the first floor, the updated kitchen features cabinets of white oak veneer with walnut stain and a vertical grain. There is a new full bathroom off the kitchen, and the dining room features a new window seat. Also, note that the archway between the dining room and living room was realigned with the living room bay window. The archway aligns with the doors to the back porch.

In the backyard, the steep grading inspired the owner to build a bridge from the back porch to the driveway, which improves accessibility and avoids any steps into the house. In a nod to the past, new lap siding was used for the back porch walls, which resembles how the house’s original siding would have looked before a past owner covered the house in cedar shake shingles.



Vintage photo from the county archives





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