

**Progress Through Preservation  
December 2021 Membership Meeting  
Monday, December 13 and Tuesday, December 14, 2021  
Chateau Fifty--The Harvey Firestone Jr. Residence**



**Chateau Fifty--The Harvey Firestone Jr. Residence on Twin Oaks Road**

In December, Progress Through Preservation will have the rare opportunity to tour one of Akron's most historical homes—Chateau Fifty. Designed by Boston architects Charles R. Greco and Edward Reed, the French Chateau style mansion on Twin Oaks Road was built in 1925 for Harvey S. Firestone Jr., the son of the founder of Firestone Tire and Rubber, and his wife Elizabeth. Harvey Firestone Jr. volunteered as a Navy pilot in World War I and served in France. Perhaps that is where he developed an appreciation for French Revival Architecture. Elizabeth also had an interest in French decorative arts and played a significant role in designing the Louis XVI inspired interiors of the house. With the exception of the kitchen which was remodeled by the most recent past owners, the house is architecturally in original condition. They are also responsible for the period accurate and opulent interior draperies, wall coverings and furnishings and for increasing the lot size from the original 1.9 acres to the current 3.29 acres to allow for a large pond and gardens. The current owners plan to use the house for weddings, corporate meetings, and other social events.

On the evening of our visit, the 14,000 square foot house (seven bedrooms and seven bathrooms) will be elaborately decorated for Christmas. As we tour each room pay special attention to the antique marble fireplaces with their detailed gilded overmantel mirrors, and the decorative crown moldings. Our guide, the Executive Curator, will give us the history of the family and describe the home's opulent décor and furnishings as we tour the first and second floors. After the tour, refreshments will be served in the breakfast room. **Please bring a dessert to be shared.**

This very special event is open to **Progress Through Preservation members only**. Persons who join PTP in November or December will be given membership through 2022 at no extra cost. To keep tour groups small and accommodate more visitors, two tour times are available on both Monday (12/13) and Tuesday (12/14). **Reservations are required.** RSVP to Alice Christie at [achristie@malone.edu](mailto:achristie@malone.edu) or 330-864-8364 and indicate whether you would like to tour at 5:00 or 6:00 and which day you would prefer. Tour groups will be assigned in the order reservations are received. Parking is available in the lot behind the Stacy Carkuff House at 1225 W. Market Street around the corner from Chateau-Fifty.