



Preservation House
2074 West Market Street
Akron, Ohio 44313-6916

PROGRESS THROUGH PRESERVATION OF GREATER AKRON

PTP Meeting for Members and Their Guests Wednesday, Sept. 27, 7 p.m. Philander D. Hall II House, Akron



Historic Hall House, 590 Diagonal Rd., Akron

In 1835 Philander D. Hall (1808-1896) moved from Connecticut to Akron and took over a failing store on the southwest corner of Howard and Market streets. In 1842 his brother, Orlando, joined the business which was then known as Hall Brothers. In 1855 Orlando died and another brother, Lorenzo, took his place. The successful store anchored the center of the downtown business area and was called Hall's Corner for almost 100 years. In 1857 Philander moved to New York City and Lorenzo's younger son, Philander D. II (1854-1920), eventually joined the business and took over when his father retired. In addition to running the family business interests, the younger Philander was a real estate developer. Starting in 1902 he was involved in the development of the Hall Park Allotment on Akron's near west side. The neighborhood which includes such addresses as Hall Street, Oakdale Avenue, Balch Street, and Crestwood Avenue was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2002.

Also in 1902, Philander II and his wife, Eva, built a grand Georgian Revival home on property once owned by the Perkins family on Diagonal Road. At that time the street was lined with the large elegant homes of wealthy businessmen, merchants, and doctors. After Philander's death in 1920, his widow sold the home to Ransom and Jennie Yeager. He was the president and general manager of the Yeager Department Store, and they lived in the house from 1921 until 1946. In 1950 a foreman at B. F. Goodrich, Philip McFadden, and his wife, Bonnie, moved in and stayed until 1967 when the house became the offices of the Lutheran Service Society. After the agency left, the house had several owners and was sitting empty in a neglected state when the current owners bought it in 2008. With 13 rooms on a little over two acres, the large home charmed them like no other. The original slate roof, copper downspouts, and flat-arched keystone windows were among the distinctive architectural features that sealed the deal. Since then they have worked to lovingly restore the house to its former elegance as one of the last traces of the glory days of this historic road.

Directions: Our September meeting will be at this historic home owned by Stephen H. and Janice S. Brown. We will meet at the house (590 Diagonal Rd.) at 7 p.m. for a tour of this lovely home. Parking is on the west side of the street in front of the house, and those with mobility issues can park in the circular driveway.

Reservations: We will not meet for dinner before the meeting but will have dessert and coffee and/or champagne (your choice) in the dining room after the tour.

This meeting is limited to PTP members and their guests. Please RSVP to Alice Christie at 330-864-8364 or achristie@malone.edu by Sunday, Sept. 24 so that we can plan on how many treats to provide.