



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

PROGRESS THROUGH PRESERVATION OF GREATER AKRON

September 2018 Membership Meeting Tuesday, September 11, 2018 Cobblecote Cottage



Cobblecote

On Tuesday, September 11, the members of Progress Through Preservation will have the rare opportunity to tour the oldest home in Akron. Built in 1834 the house, known as **Cobblecote**, is one of only two cobblestone houses known to exist in Ohio. The Greek Revival style house was built, probably by canal stone masons, for John and Fanny Ayres. A copy of the original land deed, signed in 1827 by General Simon Perkins and his wife, Nancy, shows a selling price of \$216. The house was originally surrounded by 58 acres of farmland, but now sits on a beautifully landscaped half acre lot. Yet as charming as the house is, the gardens are what the site is most known for. When Fred and Margaret (Peg Albrecht) Barton bought the house in 1924, they rebuilt the crumbling foundation, redesigned the interior, added a cobblestone chimney, and set about developing what would become an award-winning cottage garden.

When Joyce Marting acquired the property in 1965 she was determined to restore the gardens and bring them to a new level of horticultural glory. Stone paths were rediscovered as were 97 grinding stones which were hidden beneath sod. The grindstones were used to create a one-of-a-kind patio next to the wisteria-covered gazebo. In 1998 the garden was added to the Smithsonian Archive of American Gardens. The house was recently sold and is now in escrow. Real estate agent Barb Snyder, a founding member of PTP, has arranged with the former and new owners to allow us the opportunity to see this historic gem.

Cobblecote Cottage is located at 2060 White Pond Dr., just down the street from Preservation House, home of PTP. Given the proximity to our little schoolhouse, after the tour we will have our second PTP picnic for 2018. The picnic is a potluck event and attendees are asked to bring a salad, vegetable side dish, or a dessert to add to the buffet. PTP will provide: plates (recycled of course), napkins, flatware, cups, cold beverages, and the meat entrée.

RSVP: This free event is open to PTP members and their guests. In order for us to plan properly, we ask that you RSVP by Saturday, September 8 by calling Alice Christie at 330.864.8364 or emailing achristie@malone.edu. Please indicate how many will attend and which food item you will be bringing.

Parking is available on the street and in the Preservation House parking lot. The house tour will begin at 6 p.m. and the picnic at Preservation House will follow the tour.