

**Progress Through Preservation Annual Picnic
Monday, August 15, 2022—6:00 PM
The Ledges Lodge—Cuyahoga National Park**



Cuyahoga Valley National Park



The Ledges Trail



The Ledges Lodge

The Location: On Monday, August 15th, PTP will hold its Annual Picnic at the Ledges Lodge in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park. The Ledges drew many visitors in the 19th century who came for recreation and to view the imposing geological formations. The ledges are officially called Ritchie Ledges and get their name from William Ritchie, the farmer who once owned the land. In 1913, the land was purchased by Cleveland coal baron, Hayward Kendall, to be used as a hunting retreat. Later Kendall set aside the area to become Virginia Kendall Park, named in honor of his mother. The park was donated to the state in 1929. The Ledges Trail is considered one of the most stunning in any national park. Hikers are especially drawn to the Sharon Conglomerate of alcoves, crevices, formations, and outcroppings that are estimated to be millions of years old. The Civilian Conservation Corps constructed the lodges in the 1930s. Akron architect, Albert Good, who had previously designed the rustic lodges of the adjacent Boy Scout Camp Manatoc designed these to fit in with the existing landscape. The rectilinear plan of the Ledges Lodge parallels the ledge wall face. Mr. Good edited *Park and Recreation Structures* and *Park Structures and Facilities*, which are the definitive *parkitecture* books for the National Park Service. Virginia Kendall Park became part of the national park in the mid-70s. The Virginia Kendall State Park Historic District was also added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1997. After dinner, a park ranger will speak on the topic of *Parkitecture* and the Civilian Conservation Corps.

Dinner: The picnic is a potluck event. Attendees are asked to bring a salad, side dish, or a dessert to add to the buffet. PTP will provide plates, napkins, silverware, cups, cold beverages, and the meat entrée.

Time/Place/Directions/Parking: We will meet at 6:00 at the Ledges Lodge. Take Akron-Peninsula Road to Truxell Road, turn right, and continue to the entrance drive for the lodge and parking lot.

RSVP: This free event is open to **PTP members and their guests only**. Please RSVP by August 12th by calling Alice Christie at 330-864-8364 or emailing achristie@malone.edu and indicating how many will attend and which food item you will be bringing.