

**Progress Through Preservation
December Membership Meeting
Sunday, December 11, 2022
Five Oaks Mansion in Massillon, Ohio**



Exterior of Five Oaks



Interior of Five Oaks

The Progress Through Preservation membership meeting for December will be held at the beautiful Five Oaks mansion in Massillon, Ohio. Located in the Fourth Street Historic district, the house was built in 1894 for J. Walter McClymonds and his wife, Flora. McClymonds was the president of Russell & Co., which manufactured steam engines and farm machinery, and the founder of the Merchants National Bank in Massillon. The McClymonds held many fashionable social events in the house and President William McKinley attended their daughter's wedding reception there while he was president.

The house was designed by noted Cleveland architect Charles F. Schweinfurth, primarily in the Richardson Romanesque style. Schweinfurth designed and built many of the finest mansions on Cleveland's Euclid Avenue, but Five Oaks is considered one of his masterpieces. The house, which is almost completely original, features Tiffany windows and lighting fixtures, intricately carved woodwork, and a billiards room of Moroccan leather. Five fireplaces, each with a uniquely carved mantelpiece, are found on the first floor. The second floor consists of a large central hall with doorways that lead to five bedrooms. The third floor has a ballroom, a minstrels' balcony, and two large rooms for entertaining guests. The name of the home came from the five oak trees that stood on the lawn. An oak motif, employing designs of the acorn, leaf, and tree, is used throughout the house. Another motif seen in both the interior and exterior design is a lion.

In 1924, after the deaths of their parents, the two McClymonds daughters donated the home to Massillon Woman's Club. The landmark home was entered in the National Register of Historic Places in 1972.

Cost and Reservations: Lucky members of PTP will be touring the mansion while it is lavishly decorated for Christmas. The tour will start at 5:00 on Sunday, December 11. The **cost of the tour** is \$7.00, all of which goes toward the maintenance of the mansion. Please RSVP to Alice Christie at 330-864-8364 or achristie@malone.edu by Friday, December 9.

Parking: The mansion is located at 210 Fourth Street NE in Massillon and parking is on nearby streets. The house has an elevator and is handicap accessible. There are a few handicap parking spaces in the small lot behind the house reached via Fifth Street NE. The accessible door is on the north side of the house and our tour guides will need to meet you to direct you to that entrance. You can also enter through the south side door that has only a few steps. Please let me know when you RSVP if you will be using the accessible north entrance so that the guides can be expecting you.