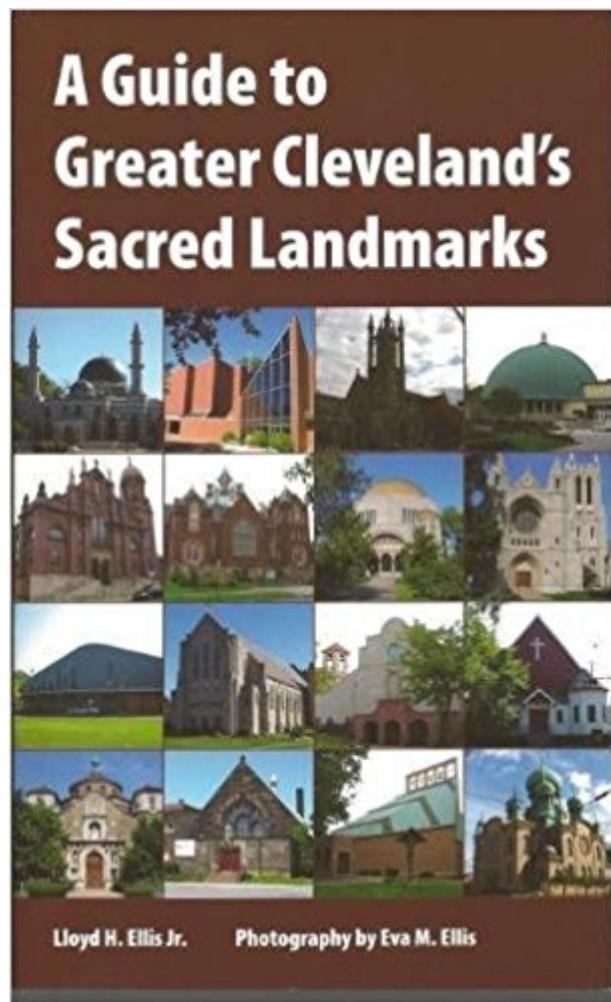


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A Guide To Greater Cleveland's Sacred Landmarks



Synopsis

An informative guide to the Cleveland area's houses of worship. The sacred landmarks of Cleveland and the surrounding area provide a fascinating array of architectural styles and often serve as visual focal points and social centers in the area's many ethnic communities. In *A Guide to Greater Cleveland's Sacred Landmarks*, author Lloyd Ellis describes the origins of the area's religious communities, outlines the history of their buildings, interprets their architectural styles, and provides details on significant interior features. Ellis profiles seventy-five Protestant churches, fifty-seven Catholic churches, eight Jewish institutions, eight Orthodox churches, three Mosques, two Unitarian churches, and a Hindu temple, and provides readers with fifteen recommended tours around Cuyahoga County. He describes each structure by explaining its importance as a religious, cultural, or architectural landmark, and accompanies each entry with an exterior photograph. In addition to serving as a reference to thriving religious institutions, *A Guide to Greater Cleveland's Sacred Landmarks* preserves the memory of the area's extinct or endangered religious communities, passing the stories of past generations to generations in the future. Anyone interested in greater Cleveland's architectural, religious, and ethnic history will welcome this well-researched and richly illustrated guide.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Lloyd H. Ellis Jr., who was a diplomat and farm manager prior to attending medical school, was director of Emergency Services at University Hospitals of Cleveland and Medical Advisor of the

Cleveland Emergency Medical Service. In retirement he has earned a Ph.D. in art history and has written about Italian Renaissance art theory, modernist residential architecture, and the history of book clubs. He may be found online at: www.lloydellis.com.

More than other "rust belt" cities, Cleveland's economy is severely depressed. Market forces, in the name of economic development, threaten Cleveland's historic buildings more than in comparable places, such as Pittsburgh or St. Louis. While urban renaissance is allowing those cities to protect their remaining building stock, historic structures are still falling in Cleveland, often replaced by parking lots or nothing at all. Nowhere is the trend more apparent than in the ecclesiastical form. Hospitals and churches tend to be poor stewards of historic architecture, albeit for different reasons. Hospitals have too much money, whereas churches don't have enough. That's where a guide such as this comes in. As simply a survey of historic churches it succeeds, but as an alarm to the possibility of lost art, it excels. Several years ago, the National Trust for Historic Preservation added "urban churches" to its list of most threatened sites nationwide. This book takes up the cause head on. The book includes about 150 entries in Cleveland and the inner suburbs, organized into tours by geographic region - a relatively common structure. Each of the 150 entries were chosen by the author, with the consultation of local historians, for artistic and cultural distinction. Most of the entries are historic structures, but important modern examples are included too. The substantial descriptive essays included with each site are really the feature of the book since the author has insight into artistic and historic contexts. The author gives us attention to architectural detail, both internal and external, that is rare in this type of book. Every entry includes a small black & white photograph, but there are no plans or elevations. Our old manufacturing centers are such a treasure trove of beautiful 19th-century architecture, and are an indelible and irreplaceable resource in the history of the United States. When we see these buildings, we see the (mostly) European cultures that transplanted them, and we see the potential for revitalized inner-city neighborhoods anchored by important public landmarks. Churches built our great industrial cities. Can those same churches rebuild them? Books such as this help. If you're an armchair traveler, this book brings the issue of preservation to your eyes without your needing to leave home. You SHOULD treat yourself to visiting in person. For me, there are few sights more lovely than a great stone church against a snowy white sky. Try it out. This book will be of particular interest to preservationists, architectural historians, local historians, and serious cultural tourists.

This work bears witness to the author's extensive research and offers comprehensive look at

important Cleveland landmarks for each of the major religious communities. It contains a wealth of historic information and is a treasure for anyone wishing to grapple with Cleveland's lively religious diversity over the years of its expansion as a multicultural city.

So I bought this book by accident.. but I also needed it for my project. not really worth it for the price and is only used more for research purposes!!

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