

“Columbus: The Heart of it All!”

The Victorian Society in America
FALL STUDY TOUR

COLUMBUS & MANSFIELD, OHIO

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31 – SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2013

“Where exactly is Ohio? It is the farthest west of the east, and the farthest east of the west, the farthest north of the south and the farthest south of the north, and it is probably the richest area of its size in the world.”

LOUIS BROMFIELD

Columbus, the state capital of Ohio, is in the center of this vast melting pot. Even the State House is a blend that required an impressive list of architects to complete (Henry Walter of Cincinnati, A.J. Davis, William Russell West, Nathan Kelly and Isaiah Rogers, with help from Thomas U. Walter and Richard Upjohn).

In 1812 the Ohio legislature decreed that a new capital city be laid out at the confluence of the Scioto and Olentangy rivers and named for the explorer Columbus. The government moved here in 1816 – although it took another 22 years before a Capitol building was begun. In 1836, the new National Road from Maryland was completed as far as Columbus, but it was not until after the Civil War that manufacturing and industry began to boom. By then, the city was home to two universities, two medical schools, fifty churches and 600 saloons. In the 20th century Columbus became known as the headquarters of insurance companies, banks and retail giants.

Mansfield, a city of about 125,000 an hour north of Columbus, was founded in 1808 and was an early manufacturing center. In the 19th and early 20th centuries, Mansfield was a crossroads of intersecting railroads and highways. It's official nickname is “the fun center of Ohio,” but it is also known as the “carousel capital of Ohio.”

Thursday, October 31 • COLUMBUS

• *Opening Cocktail Reception w/hearty hors d'oeuvres, 6:00 pm* • *Dinner on your own*

Our headquarters hotel, the **Westin Columbus**, was built in 1897 as the **Great Southern Fire Proof Hotel and Opera House**. The Opera House still serves as a theater next door to the hotel. A thorough restoration in 2008 revealed the original grandeur of the lobby, with its marble floors and reception desk, and ballroom, with stained glass windows.

The opening reception will be held at the hotel. Our keynote speaker is Ed Lentz, interim director of Columbus Landmarks Foundation and author of *Columbus: The Story of a City* (2003) and *Historic Columbus* (2012)

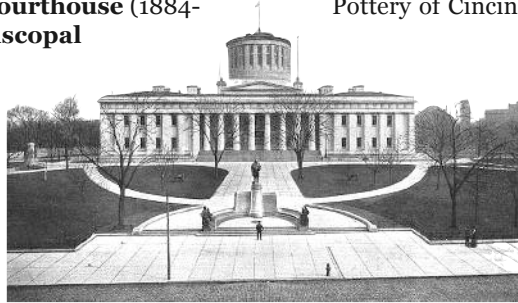
Friday, November 1 • COLUMBUS

• *Breakfast at hotel (included)* • *Lunch (included)* • *Dinner on your own*

The first stop on our morning walking tour is the **Ohio Statehouse**, begun in 1838 and completed in 1861. We will be led by Nancy Recchie, co-author of the *AIA Guide to Columbus*, whose knowledge of the building and downtown Columbus comes from a historic preservation perspective. We will stop at the magnificent former **United States Post Office and Courthouse** (1884-87), now a law office, and **Trinity Episcopal Church** (1866-1889) as we explore **Capitol Square**. Our walk down the appropriately-named Broad Street will include stops at **The Columbus Club** -- housed in a restored 1865 mansion -- and **St. Joseph's Cathedral**, whose cornerstone was laid in 1866. We will have lunch at the **Columbus Museum of Art**, a Beaux Arts building which has recently been renovated. An exhibition of the work of Columbus-born artist George Bellows will be on display.

In the space of a few short blocks, the **East Town Street Historic District** includes some of Columbus' finest 19th and early 20th

century homes. We will visit the transitional Greek Revival-Italianate **Kelton House** (1852) where much of the original furnishings and interiors remain, and the extraordinary **Burgunder House** (1899) which features a 1914 solarium whose walls and floors are covered by 5500 tiles from the Rookwood Pottery of Cincinnati. Across the street is **Topiary Park**, where artist James Mason has reinterpreted George Seurat's "Sunday Afternoon on the Isle of Grande Jatte" in topiary.



After a rest at the hotel, a shuttle will take us to the neighborhood where 19th century German immigrants built a community of brick streets lined with cottages and shops, now bookstores, restaurants and pubs. We will have

dinner at **Schmidt's Restaurant and Sausage Haus**, where five generations of the same family have dispensed hospitality. Jeff Darbee, a well-known historic preservation consultant, will lead a walk around **German Village** for those who want to see more.

Getting There

Columbus, Ohio is serviced by Air Canada, Air Tran, American, Delta, Southwest, United and U.S. Airways. There is no regularly scheduled shuttle service to downtown, but there are taxis on demand (no reservations required). The taxi fare to downtown Columbus is about \$25.00. There is no Amtrak service to Columbus. I-70 and I-71 both serve the city center.

Dress

As it is late fall layered clothing is suggested, and comfortable walking shoes are a must. And bring your umbrella 'just in case'.

Eating Out

While almost all meals are provided there are restaurants within walking distance of the hotel.

Suggested Reading

Reading and viewing suggestions in preparation for this trip may be found on the VSA website www.victoriansociety.org

Hotel Information

Our headquarters hotel is the Westin Columbus, where we have secured a block of rooms. The rates are as follows: Single \$129; Double \$139; Triple \$149; Quad \$159.

All rate include breakfast. To reserve your room call 1-(614)-228-3800 and be sure to mention that you're with the Victorian Society group. The cut-off date for making reservations is **September 30, 2013**. After this date the discounted rate will no longer be available and the rooms will be subject to availability.

MAKING RESERVATIONS AND ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE HOTEL ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY AND AT YOUR EXPENSE. THE SOCIETY'S ONLY ROLE IS TO SECURE THE DISCOUNTED GROUP RATE.

Planning Committee

Pat Eldredge (VSA) • Sylvia Johnson (VSA)
Barbara Powers (Ohio Historic Preservation Office)
Kevin Rose (VSA) • Tom Wolf (Ohio Historical Society)

Saturday, November 2 • MANSFIELD

• Breakfast at hotel (included) • Lunch included • Dinner included

Our first stop will be **Malabar Farm**, home of Pulitzer-prize-winning author, script writer and experimental farmer **Louis Bromfield**. In 1939 Mr. Bromfield returned from Paris to the area of his boyhood and purchased 595 acres and an old farmhouse. Architect Louis Lamoreaux designed an expansion of the original house to look as if sections had been added over the years, incorporating elements found in early Ohio architecture. Here most of Bromfield's books and many film scripts were written. The home served as a retreat for many of the author's Hollywood friends, including Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall, who were married and honeymooned here. The farm itself became a model of sustainable farming.

We will lunch at the **Malabar Inn**, a stage coach stop built in 1820. Nearby is a spring-cooled roadside stand where Bromfield his farm produce, often with Hollywood stars behind the counter.

On our way to downtown Mansfield, we will be able to view the immense **Mansfield Reformatory**, a 250,000 square foot structure built between 1886 and 1910. No longer in use as a prison, it was the site of four films, including the 1994 *Shawshank Redemption*. Our next stop will be the Gothic Revival **Oak Hill Cottage**, built in 1847. In 1864, Dr. J. Aten Jones bought the house and his descendants lived there for more than a century. The house and original furnishings were purchased by the Richland County Historical Society in 1965.

To experience the museum in the **Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Building** is to enter a time machine. Displayed in their original cases, the eclectic and far-ranging artifacts are the culmination of the life's work of Edward Wilkinson, collector and historian. The massive Romanesque building was built to house the collection in 1889.

Our last stop in Mansfield will be a ride on a **hand-carved carousel** with vignettes of local historical places. On our way to dinner, we motor through small towns – including **Newark, Ohio**, home of one of Louis Sullivan's jewel-box banks. We will dine in Granville at the **Granville Inn**, designed by Frank Packard (1866-1923), whose work will be featured on Sunday.



Sunday, November 3 • COLUMBUS

• Breakfast at hotel (included)
• Lunch included

Today we concentrate on Ohio architect Frank Packard and Ohio author/New Yorker cartoonist James Thurber. Our tour guide will be architectural historian Barbara Powers who is with the Ohio Historic Preservation Office.

In the 37 years he practiced architecture, **Frank Packard** (1866-1923) designed over 3400 public and private buildings. The language of his style was as diverse as it was prolific, ranging from Romanesque to Georgian to Arts and Crafts. Our bus will take us to the neighborhood known as **Victorian Village**, where we will see one of Packard's late 19th century, distinctive French Gothic houses. Then we will visit homes in both **Grandview Heights** and **Marble Cliff**, where his Arts and Crafts designs represent a significant part of these turn-of-the-century suburban communities. Box lunches will be served at the

*“Early to rise and early to bed
Makes a man healthy, wealthy
and dead”*

- JAMES THURBER

Georgian Revival **Robert Jeffrey House** in Bexley (Packard, 1905), now under the care of the city and home to the Bexley Historical Society.

The afternoon will include a bus tour of the early 20th-century architecture of **Bexley** and the near east side neighborhoods of Columbus, concluding with a visit to the house where the author and humorist **James Thurber** lived as a young man. Born in Columbus in 1894, Thurber used elements of this house and its neighborhood in many of his works.



The bus will drop participants off at the Port Columbus International Airport at 4:00 pm and return to the hotel.

Registration Information

Registration can be made via check (preferable), credit card or money order. Checks should be made payable to The Victorian Society in America. The Victorian Society in America is not responsible for accidents, injury or loss of personal items during this program. The Victorian Society in America reserves the right to make such changes to the schedule, sites to be visited, or personnel as may become necessary or desirable. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis.

As this mailing has been sent via first class mail reservations will be taken immediately.

RESERVE EARLY AS SPACE IS LIMITED. Phone or fax reservations will ONLY be taken with a credit card payment at the time of reservation. Send your fax reservations to 215-636-9873. Registration can made via check, money order, or credit card (VISA, MASTERCARD, or DISCOVER only). Checks should be made payable to the Victorian Society in America. Please note that we do NOT take American Express.

The Victorian Society reserves the right to alter the schedule of events or cancel events should it become necessary.

Refunds

Refunds will only be given until September 30, 2013. A \$50.00 administrative fee will be deducted for each refund. **After September 30 no refunds of any kind will be given.**

Note

If you think that there is a chance that you will need to withdraw from this trip after you have paid you may wish to consider buying trip insurance, which protects you against an unforeseen need to cancel a trip. Trip insurance can cover the Society's fee and your airfare and hotel costs. There are many providers of this type of insurance: one place to start looking is **www.insuremytrip.com**, 1-800-487-4722. The VSA is providing this information purely as a service to you: the Society does not receive any compensation from any insurance organization.

FALL STUDY TOUR

	COST	NO.OF PEOPLE	=	TOTAL
Registration Fee	\$25	_____	=	_____
Study Tour	\$525	_____	=	_____
Membership in the VSA (if not already a member)	\$55 individual	_____	=	_____
<i>Non-members wishing to attend the Study Tour must join the Victorian Society in America</i>	\$65 household	_____	=	_____
	TOTAL REGISTRATION AMOUNT		=	\$_____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ made payable to the Victorian Society in America

Please charge my Mastercard Visa Discover Please note that we do NOT take American Express

_____ Expires _____

S.E.C. (Security Code) _____

Signature _____

Name _____

Additional Participant _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (day) _____ Phone (evening) _____ Fax _____

Email address _____

