



*January*  
*February*  
*March 2020*

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***A look back at Blue Ash History...***

This is Part 4 of our series on historic homes in Blue Ash. Several of these properties were included in “*The Historic Inventory of Hamilton County, An Historic Survey of 42 Suburban Communities*” prepared by The Miami Purchase Association and authorized by the Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners in 1991. These properties have been marked with a \*

**4741 Hunt Road, built in 1895.** 2-story frame and siding house with 7 rooms, 3 bedrooms, 1 full and one half-bath, consisting of approximately 2,458 square feet, situated on a lot 80 x 200 feet. It features a fireplace, partial basement, open frame porch, wood deck, and detached garage.



**\*8849 Kenwood Road, built in 1830.** “This building’s significance is enhanced by its association with the Ferris family. Solomon Ferris bought 50 acres on Kenwood Road where he built this house. He was the younger son of John and Elizabeth Ferris, Sr. The 1869 Atlas shows the house on the property of J. L. Hosbrook; in 1884 the house was owned by M. E. Pritchett. On the 1914 Atlas the house is owned by another Solomon Ferris, perhaps Soloman, Jr.” The house is approximately 3,000 square feet, and consists of 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, situated on .932 acres. It features an open porch, wood deck, and detached garage.

**\*8992 Kenwood Road, built in 1830.** “This building’s significance as an early brick I-house is greatly enhanced by its association with the Ferris family, early settlers of Sycamore Township. The land was purchased by Elizabeth Ferris in 1801. She was the wife of John Ferris, who had purchased land in Sycamore Township as early as 1791.” The home is approximately 3,000 square feet and features 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, fireplace, and partial basement on .5 acres. Initially the home faced Kenwood Road, but the address today is 4840 Muirwoods Court.



**9503 Kenwood Road, original property built in 1900.** The original portion of the Strawser Funeral Home was built in 1900 and consisted of 12 rooms, 5 bedrooms, 1 full and 2 half-baths. The funeral home (first floor) side was constructed in 1931 and consists of 2,145 square feet. There is a frame canopy, 2 open porches, 2-car attached garage and a detached garage. The property has been in the Strawser family since its original construction in 1900.



**10243 Kenwood Road, built in 1900.** This frame and siding one-story home is approximately 1,300 square feet, consists of 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, situated on approximately one-half acre. It features central air, partial basement, one enclosed and one open porch, wood deck, and detached garage.

**4510 Leslie, built in 1875.** \*This house is one of the few remaining 19th century structures in this subdivision. J. H. Crugar owned 53 acres of this land. In 1889 Louis Ellman had this area surveyed and platted for a subdivision of Blue Ash. The irregularly shaped 2-1/2 story frame house has a cross gabled roof and a multisided 2-1/2 story tower topped by a finial capped roof. The tower appears to be a late 19th century addition. A porch with turned posts and a decorative spindled frieze wraps around the south and east sides. \*

The home has 7 rooms, 3 bedrooms and 2 baths and consists of 2,000 square feet, situated on a lot measuring 50 x 150. There are 2 open porches and a detached garage.





## *Aviation Comes to Blue Ash*

and we came to Summit Park to hear guest speaker David Vornholt, Chairman of the Cincinnati Aviation Heritage Society and Museum, describe how aviation changed not only the Blue Ash area, but the growing cities all around us. Thanks to everyone who attended and actively participated in the discussion.

Thanks also to the Blue Ash Civic League whose generous grant funded our speaker's fee.



## **Hunt House Update**

**As you know, the Hunt House is temporarily closed due to an infestation of wood-eating beetles, who have taken over occupancy for the time being. The home is being inspected to determine the extent of any structural damage. For safety reasons, no one is permitted to enter until these items are remedied.**

**Repairs will take place once budgets are determined. The City of Blue Ash is in the midst of their annual budget process, and allocations for the repairs will impact both the Parks/ Recreation Department and Facilities Maintenance. Once the 2020 budget is finalized, remedies for both the insects as well as any accompanying damage will be scheduled.**

**Unfortunately, this is going to be a months-long project. The BAHS plans to investigate off-site locations to offer programs next year. We will keep everyone posted via our quarterly newsletter, website and Facebook page. We appreciate your loyalty to our organization and programs, and hope to see you soon!**

