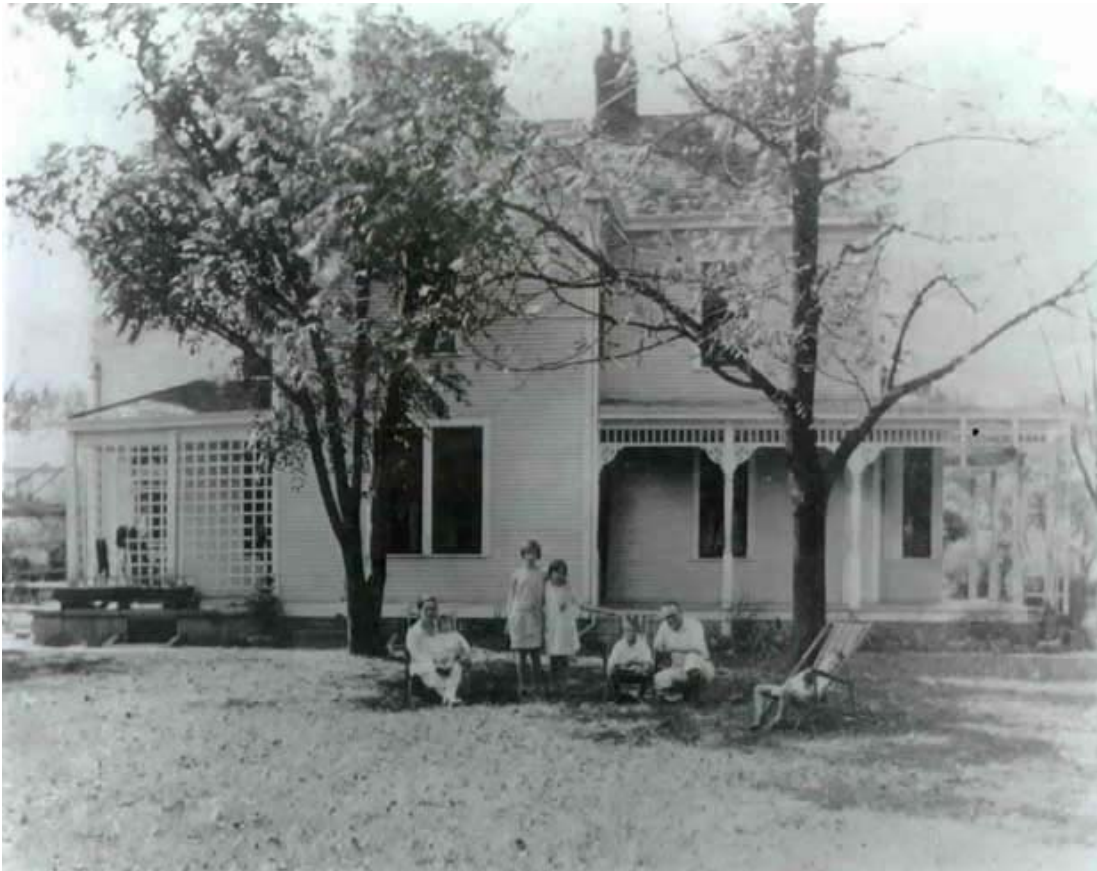


# “Generation Renovation” The 2005 House Tour

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By Carol C. Cole

I hope everyone in Terrace Park as well as many outsiders will make it a priority to attend this year’s House Tour. Five homes that have been recently renovated will be featured on Sunday afternoon, December 4<sup>th</sup>, from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm.



The picture at the top of this article shows 203 Marietta in the autumn of 1926. It was the West family home and the family is outside on the lawn. It’s interesting to compare this picture with the one on the house tour ticket since they are very similar. This was not so true a few years ago when the early porches had been removed. Now the house again looks much more similar to how it looked in 1926 and perhaps to when it was originally built. It is of course one of the so called “railroad” or “pattern” homes, built in the 1890s all using the same cruciform plan. We do not believe they were ever owned by the railroad but were built in an attractive area where homeowners could take advantage of the ease of transportation into Cincinnati on the railroad. They are all in J. W. Sibley’s subdivisions. The West family is one of the important early Terrace Park families related also to the Robertsons (dentist at 602 Miami), Lloyds on Rugby and Sibleys.

411 Miami, now the home of the Keffer family, was on the Garden Club House Tour in 1962, then the home of Mrs. Joseph Scallan. Diane DeCamp still a Garden Club member today, wrote an article at that time about the houses on the tour. "Mrs. Joseph Scallan's house on Miami is the dream house of more than one person. The entire living room is surrounded by a wide balcony off which the bedrooms open. The colors downstairs are soft green, deep red, pink, and white. Upstairs rooms are predominantly pink. The colors may have been inspired by the living room fireplace, which is faced with white tiles painted with red and pink flowers. The curtains were surrounded with garlands of red poinsettias. Mrs. Scallan has combined Victorian antiques and accessories from all over the world". What I remember most from that house tour is the double staircase, which is perhaps the most striking feature of the whole house. There were 6 other houses on the tour that year and over 550 visitors. Mrs. Scallan lived in the house well over 50 years until her death in 1976 at 96 years old. A Cincinnati Post article in 1951 states that the house was planned just for summer use, but became instead a year around home.

The Mauks's house at 408 Stanton was built in the 1940s, a fairly typical Cape Cod. There was not a lot of money around at that time so building smaller homes was the norm. The Mauks extensive renovation in 2001 has made it a much larger home but one that still seems to fit into the neighborhood. This is the only house on the tour that did not, when built, have a view of the Little Miami River.

The Wanoka Woods area was developed in the 1970s into what it is today. Earlier cottages and canoe clubs built in the area by Gus Worz were popular with summer visitors. Just across Oxford all along the Little Miami River and well beyond St. Thomas Church was the Terrace Park County Club with its clubhouse, tennis courts and 9-hole golf course. Today Wanoka Woods features contemporary homes and the Deeter's is one of them. As is in earlier days, views of the Little Miami River remain probably the most prominent feature of these homes.

The final home, 615 Miami, is the newest and again takes full advantage of its location on the Little Miami River. You might want to look at [www.tpsurvey.org](http://www.tpsurvey.org) to see a picture of the home as it was originally built. One might have said then that it was a contemporary chalet but that look has pretty much disappeared. It will be very interesting to see how all five of these very different homes have been remodeled and updated for families in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.