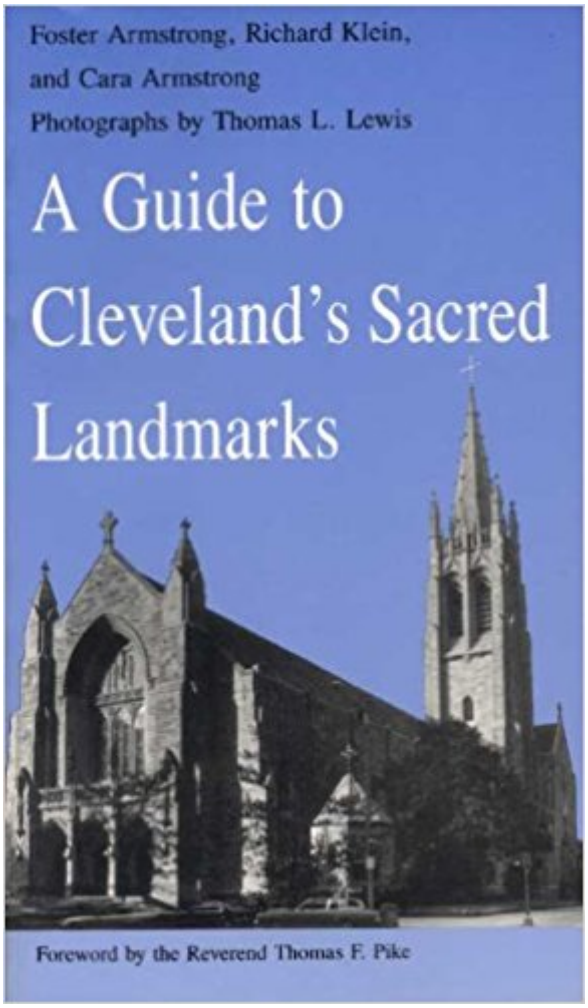
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A Guide To Cleveland's Sacred Landmarks



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Synopsis

As a developing industrial city during the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Cleveland attracted diverse national groups. Their many churches and synagogues served as visual focal points and sociat centers in the cityÃ¢â ¬â„¢s ethnic neighborhoods. Today the resulting ensemble of sacred landmarks adds much to ClevelandÃ¢â ¬â„¢s dynamic and visually interesting architecture. This guide, funded in part by the Ohio Arts and Humanities Councils, spotlights more than 120 of these structures with photographs, maps, and descriptive details about each buildingÃ¢â ¬â„¢s architectural significance, construction, architect(s), location, and congregation. In addition, the guide offers 10 driving tours to the sacred landmarks, all located within the city limits of Cleveland and classified by neighborhoodÃ¢â ¬â ¢downtown, University Circle, Ohio City, and Tremont areas, among others. Proceeds from the sale of the book will benefit the Sacred Landmarks Research Group of Cleveland State University. Ã¢â ¬Å“This book is by far the best available repository of information on the architectural, aesthetic, and cultural resources represented by these buildings. Through this book, Clevelanders can better understand, appreciate, and, perhaps, better manage these priceless resources.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â ¢Dr. Michael J. Tevesz, Co-Director, Sacred Landmarks Research Group

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Customer Reviews

Foster Armstrong is director of the Urban Design Center of Northeast Ohio, emeritus professor of architecture and environmental design at Kent State University, vice president of the Cleveland Restoration Society, and member of the Sacred Landmarks Research Group. In 1992 he received

the Kent State University PresidentÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Medal for exemplary leadership in revitalizing several northeastern Ohio cities. He is also an architect and planning consultant. Richard Klein, assistant professor of urban studies at Cleveland State University, is an urban archeologist, a fellow with the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, the secretary of the Cleveland Restoration Society, and a private preservation consultant. Cara Armstrong received degrees in architecture and interdisciplinary studies from Miami University and is currently a graduate student in architecture at Columbia University. She is employed by David Young, Architects, in Hudson, Ohio. Thomas Lewis, photographer, is a member of the Sacred Landmarks Research Group and a professor and former chair of the geopolitical sciences department at Cleveland State University. Thomas F. Pike, rector of Calvary and St. GeorgeÃ¢â ¬â„¢s parish in New York City, is national chair of Partners for Sacred Places.

Now HERE'S something I wish we could see more of; guides to historic urban churches.American cities, and so-called "rust belt" cities in particular, are full of beautiful urban churches. So many of these important buildings anchored the immigrant neighborhoods in which they stand, and are sadly deteriorated, neglected, burned or demolished. They are enormously important structues, both in historic and artistic contexts. We should survey and catalog every one of them before they disappear, and to increase their visibility to people who may be able to save them.That's exactly the idea behind this book, and what a great city for such a survey! Cleveland, like other rust-belt towns - Pittsburgh, Buffalo, Detroit, St. Louis - just to name a few, has an impressive collection of historic churches and temples, imagined, funded, and built mostly by immigrants seeking to transplant their spiritual culture to a new place. From huge cathedrals to local Catholic parish churches, they're all in this book. There are over 200 individual structures featured in the book, with reference to another 50. Coverage is STRICTLY limited to the Cleveland city limits. The large, stone Protestant churches that serve wealthy suburban congregations are absent from this survey. Too bad, but all the city landmarks you expect to see (like Trinity Cathedral and St. Michael's) are here.The book is in a somewhat standard architecture guide format. Each building includes a small monochrome photograph and a descriptive essay. I must say, the building selection and the text supporting it really stand out. The photographs are not so good, mostly old archival images that do not display the artistic qualities of the churches well.Potential readers should consider this book primarily as a reference work rather than a browsing volume or a tourist guide. It's really intended for architectural historians and for readers who have a keen interest in ecclesiastical architecture. Preservationists should be particularly interested! We can't allow another disaster like the demolition of St. Agnes to

happen again!Lloyd Ellis' Guide to GREATER Cleveland Ecclesiastical Landmarks is equally good, and includes important buildings from the inner suburbs as well. It is a good complement to this volume.

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