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National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

4 37 475	- IVED 2280
1. Name of Property	1111 00
Historic name: <u>Rauh, Frederick and Harriet Ho</u> Other names/site number: <u></u>	Nat Posis
Name of related multiple property listing:	Nat. Register of Historic Pla National Park Service
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple	e property listing
2. Location	
Street & number: 10068 Leacrest Road	
City or town: Woodlawn State: Ohio	County: Hamilton
Not For Publication: na Vicinity: na	
3. State/Federal Agency Certification	
As the designated authority under the National I	Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this X nomination the documentation standards for registering properties and meets the procedural and professional	perties in the National Register of Historic
In my opinion, the property _X meets of recommend that this property be considered significance:	
nationalstatewide _X Applicable National Register Criteria:	local
ABX_CD	
Barbaux Power DSHPO for In	ventory & Registration July 15, 2016
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
_State Historic Preservation Office, Ohio History	Connection
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal	Government
In my opinion, the property meets o	loes not meet the National Register criteria.
Signature of commenting official:	Date
Title:	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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4. National Park S	ervice Certification	
I hereby certify that	this property is:	
✓ entered in the Na	tional Register	
determined eligib	ole for the National Register	
determined not e	ligible for the National Register	
removed from the	e National Register	
other (explain:)		
Signature of the	son Beall Keeper	9-6-16 Date of Action
5. Classification		
Ownership of Propo	erty	
(Check as many box	es as apply.)	
Private:	х	
Public - Local		
Public - State		
Public – Federal		
Category of Proper	ty	
(Check only one box	.)	
Building(s)	ж	
District		
Site		
Structure		
Object		

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ne of Property	County and State
Number of Resources with	Property
(Do not include previously li	
Contributing	Noncontributing
1	buildings
	sites
2	structures
	objects
3	0 Total
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instru- DOMESTIC: single dwelling)	
<u> </u>	
Current Functions	
(Enter categories from instru	ions.)
DOMESTIC: single dwelling	

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7. Description		
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions.) MODERN MOVEMENT: International Style		
Materials: (enter categories from instructions.) Principal exterior materials of the property: _concrete, cor	ncrete block, brick, steel	

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Frederick and Harriet Rauh House is an International Style residence designed in 1938 for Frederick and Harriet Rauh by architect John Becker of the firm Garriott & Becker. It is a two-story cinderblock residence with flat roof, casement and glass block windows, rear terrace with steel railing, and attached two-car garage. The house's structural system consists of wood, concrete and steel. The asymmetrical façades reflect the interior room arrangements. The 8.96-acre site incorporates features designed by landscape architect A. D. Taylor, also in 1938. Vacant from approximately 2005 to 2011, the house has now been restored as a private residence. The faithful restoration preserved original features and recreated missing elements. The objective of the work was to return the house as closely as possible to its 1938 appearance while unobtrusively updating mechanical and safety systems to meet modern codes. The property includes contributing resources: the house and the Taylor-designed landscape features.¹

As defined by the National Park Service, "**Restoration** is the act or process of accurately depicting the form, features, and character of a property as it appeared at a particular period of time by means of the removal of features from other periods in its history and reconstruction of missing features from the restoration period. The limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make properties functional is appropriate within a restoration project."

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Village of Woodlawn. The Frederick and Harriet Rauh House is located at the western edge of the Village of Woodlawn, Ohio, a suburban community 14 miles northwest of Cincinnati. When built, the house's environs were rural and sparsely occupied. Today the area has experienced some residential development to the west of Leacrest Road. Much of the original open space surrounding the Rauh House, however, remains undeveloped: a mix of open fields and forest. Early- through mid-twentieth-century residential structures make the majority of Woodlawn's building stock, with some surviving late-nineteenth-century residences and a few areas of late-twentieth-century suburban residential development. The main thoroughfare through the Village is the north-south Springfield Pike (U.S. Route 4), approximately one mile east of the Rauh House. (See maps.)

Site Characteristics. The Rauh house sits in the center of its original 8.96-acre site. It is sited at the crest of a slight hill, with a southern exposure. The longitudinal axis of the house is aligned parallel to the hill. The planting around the immediate area of the house transitions to a more natural landscape until it blends with a forest environment. The house has views to the south of its own property and an adjacent open field. A seasonal wetland is located on the southern edge of the property. (Photos 1-5)

Architects. The firm of Garriott and Becker are listed as the architects of the Rauh House, but John Becker actually was responsible for the design. The landscape design for the Rauh House was the work of A. D. Taylor with the assistance of Anjo Tasimoro (Figure 6). Surviving features of the Taylor landscape plan include the stone wall and firepit in the northwest corner of the property. The firepit resembles a design from Taylor's book *Camp Stoves and Fireplaces*, published by the United States Forest Service in 1937.²

General Description.

Exterior: The Rauh House consists of 4,466 square feet in floor area, with white-painted cinder block walls and a concrete foundation. A brick chimney at the west elevation is painted white, as are several brick walls that extend outward from the house. An exterior terrace is framed by walls made of cinder block and brick. The rough surface of the block gives the house a sense of mass. The block coursing alternates between two courses of 8" by 16" block and one course of 5" by 5" block. The resulting pattern establishes a clear horizontal banding that covers the entire exterior of the house. Fenestration is comprised of steel casement windows grouped to form horizontal bands in major rooms and paired windows in smaller rooms. (Photos 6, 7)

² From information provided by Jeffrey Jakucyk, Architects Plus, architects for the restoration. The existing stone landscape features were original to the house and may even have predated it slightly, built while Becker was still working on the house design. Most of the wall just needed repair but some section required rebuilding. For these they reused the existing stone or local limestone from the site.

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The building's mass is a series of interlocking rectangles that stretch along the crest of a gentle slope. The first-floor footprint is 24 by 88 feet, an unusually narrow proportion for residential plans. The second floor repeats the first floor outline and extends the living area over the garage. A screened porch is contained within the overall massing of the house. (See plans.)

The house as viewed from the street appears rather small, as this view presents the narrow end of the living room terrace (Photo 7). The approach to the front door, however, reveals the entire length of the residence (Photo 6). A small brick wall extends from the front door and supports a concrete slab porch roof. The front door, which is original to the house, contains a circular window (Photo 12). A large window of glass block wraps the north corner at the stair hall (Photo 6). A screen wall with small square openings defines a first-floor terrace and creates the support for a second-level deck (Photo 7).

The north elevation of the house is the public side, where the driveway and service access are located. The east façade has three minor windows and is a simple square (Photo 10). The southern-facing windows in the living room are shaded from the summer sun by the second-floor exterior terrace, which is pierced by small glass skylights sending borrowed light to the living room below (Photo 8). A basement extends under the entire living area of the house. The two-car garage, located at the east end of the house, is a slab on grade (Photo 11).

Structural system: The house's structural system combines several uncommon elements. The basement walls are poured concrete supporting a first-floor structural concrete slab and beam system. The second floor is gypsum panels supported by open web steel bar joists. The roof is wood framing of 2 x 12's with wood decking. Steel angles and I-beams support the cinder block walls at the window openings. Some clay brick infill occurs through the exterior of the house.

Materials: The house is constructed of industrial materials that would not be expected in a residence. Windows are factory steel sash. Glass block is used in a few locations, most extensively at the two-story stair hall. The flat roof of the house was originally a tar and gravel system, which was replaced by a PVC roof in 2010. The coping is paint grip galvanized metal that matches the original coping in size and configuration. Interior roof drains direct the storm water to the site via drains in the basement. Handrails are metal with a gray finish. The walls are three-coat plaster and the floors are wood parquet.

Interior plan: The interior plan is divided between large open and interconnected spaces and service spaces that are discrete rooms. The large living room opens directly to the dining room. A soffit at the connection between the two rooms supported a curtain that was used occasionally to divide the spaces. (See plans.)

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Alterations: While the Rauh House remained largely unchanged during the original owners' tenure, some changes have been made by successive owners. During the 1980s, the walls were covered with Exterior Insulating Finish System (EIFS), which was painted white. The surface of the cinder block was abraded to accept adhesive for the EIFS. Many of the windows also were replaced with new aluminum casement sash, and the openings were altered in shape. Some of the original steel casements remained in place at non-primary facades. An in-ground swimming pool (since removed) was installed by a later owner at an unknown date.

In 2005, the land was platted for building lots. Trees were cut down and a cul-de-sac with fire hydrant created in the middle of the property. The house was advertised for sale as a tear-down. Its egress was cut off, leaving it landlocked. It also was left unsecured, allowing entry for vandals who removed items from the building. The thenowner also removed original fixtures. The owner took out two demolition permits on the house, both of which expired.

Restoration: As mentioned previously, the house suffered from deterioration and vandalism during its period of vacancy. Roof failure and clogged drains caused extensive water damage, ceiling collapse, and toxic mold infestation throughout the house (Figures 8, 9). In 2010 the interior was gutted to abate the mold, which resulted in removal of the plaster and the parquet flooring.

In 2010, as noted, a new owner purchased the building. Restoration work followed the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Restoration of Historic Buildings. Work began with materials testing in the winter of 2010-2011. Restoration work, which began soon afterward, was based on archival photographs and the recollections of the children of Frederick and Harriet Rauh, who grew up in the house. Although the original architectural drawings and landscape plans have not yet been located, the plans of the John Becker House (no longer extant), which shared many features with the Rauh House, helped guide design decisions.

An architectural conservator was engaged to analyze the cinderblock, paint and plaster and determine the course of treatment. The EIFS was removed and the cinder block was repaired where damaged. The original texture, determined by examining undamaged blocks, was recreated using epoxy. The walls then were coated with lime wash and painted in a shade of gray-white that matched the original (Figure 11).

The original floor plan, which had remained almost unchanged since construction, was preserved. The plaster walls and ceilings were recreated using traditional three-coat plaster (Figure 13). New parquet flooring was installed that matched the original. The metal handrail at the main staircase was duplicated by a local metalsmith from archival photographs. The glass-and-metal ceiling fixture in the stairwell was replicated based upon photos and reinstalled in its original location (Photo 17). New casework was installed in the living room and bedrooms that resembled the original (Photos 13, 14, 18).

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As noted previously, features of the original Taylor landscape plan include the firepit and stone wall (Figure 6). The wildflower walk added by Frederick Rauh south of the house was recreated: Surviving wildflowers were dug up, nurtured in a plant nursery, then replanted. The driveway was rebuilt in its original location with a tar-and-chip finish (Figure 12, Photo 1). Non-historic elements, such as the swimming pool, ponds and culde-sac, were removed. A rustic-style wire fence with wood posts was installed around the perimeter of the property to match the original.

Integrity considerations. In summary, Rauh House now looks much as it did when completed in 1938. The floor plan and surviving original features of the house were preserved, including the fireplace and living room bookcase. Many missing or damaged features and finishes were recreated based on documentary evidence. These include the parquet flooring, missing casework and stainless steel terrace railing and stairhall chandelier. Non-historic insulation and stucco were removed from the exterior walls and the original cinderblocks uncovered and restored. Non-historic windows were replaced with new casements that strongly resemble the originals and were made by the same manufacturer, Some features of the grounds were recreated as well including the rustic wooded landscape, and non--historic elements were removed. Therefore, the restored house manifests a high degree of integrity under all its aspects.

Photographs. While some of the photos were taken several years ago, they accurately reflect the appearance and condition of the Rauh House and grounds, which have not changed significantly since then.

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0 0	totoment of Significance	
ð. S	tatement of Significance	
	cable National Register Criteria "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for g.)	National Register
	A. Property is associated with events that have made a significan broad patterns of our history.	t contribution to the
	B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in o	our past.
x	C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, per construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses to represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose conditioning individual distinction.	nigh artistic values,
	D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important history.	ant in prehistory or
	ria Considerations "x" in all the boxes that apply.)	
	A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purpose	S
	B. Removed from its original location	
	C. A birthplace or grave	
	D. A cemetery	
	E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure	
	F. A commemorative property	
	G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the pa	st 50 years

NPS Form 10-900	OMB No. 1024-0
Rauh, Frederick and Harriet, House Name of Property	
Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions.) Architecture	
Period of Significance _1938	
Significant Dates	
Significant Person (Complete only if Criterion B is mark	ed above.)
Cultural Affiliation	
Architect/Builder Becker, John	

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Summary. The Frederick and Harriet Rauh House meets Criterion C in the area of architecture as a significant and locally rare expression of the International Style in Greater Cincinnati. Of the early Modernist architects working in Cincinnati, its designer, John Becker, appears to have been most closely attuned to the orthodoxy of the style. Nowhere is this more evident than in the design of the Rauh House. In the context of Cincinnati early Modernist buildings, the Rauh House stands out for the purity of its International Style design. While earlier Modernist designs pointed the way, the Rauh House represents the first fully developed International Style design in the Cincinnati area. The largest and most sophisticated of Cincinnati's early Modern houses, it most strongly demonstrates the influence of Modernism in concept and planning. Asymmetrical, unornamented, it reflects the ideal of a building as a work of sculpture set on the landscape. The house has undergone a faithful restoration that included preservation of original features and recreation of missing elements. The house retains its entire 8.96-acre suburban site, which includes features of the original landscape plan. The Rauh House is being nominated under the context Early Modernist Residences of Greater Cincinnati, c. 1936 – 1950. Its period of significance is 1938, the date of its construction.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Characteristics and gradual evolution of the International Style.

There exists in the important countries of the world today a new architecture. The reality of the (International Style) has not yet been brought home to the general public in America... The International Style is probably the first fundamentally original and widely distributed style since the Gothic. Today the style has passed beyond the experimental stage. In almost every civilized country in the world it is reaching its full stride.—(Museum of Modern Art, "Museum of Modern Art, New York City, Announces Exhibition of Modern Architecture," press release, n.d.)

In 1932, the Museum of Modern Art (MOMA) hosted a groundbreaking exhibition on modern architecture: "the first international show of this nature ever prepared" (MOMA 1930). In their catalogue of the exhibition, Henry-Russell Hitchcock and Philip Johnson defined the International Style as having three overlapping principles. "First, it is an architecture of volume rather than mass. Second, composition depends on the rhythmic organization of regular units, with asymmetrical arrangements predominating over the symmetries of academic

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architecture. Finally, ornament is outlawed" (William H. Jordy, *American Buildings and Their Architects, Volume 5: The Impact of European Modernism in the Mid-Twentieth Century* [Oxford University Press, 1972] p. 119).

Foremost propagandist and most imaginative visionary for the new style was Le Corbusier. His "five elements" inaugurating "a new era (cycle) in architecture" included the following: 1) skeletal frame, giving point supports instead of walls; 2) open plan, instead of boxed rooms; 3) roof terrace, instead of pitched roof; 4) window band, instead of individual windows; 5) hence an asymmetrical composition for facades consonant with the functional demands of the interior (Jordy, p. 121). To express function—a central theme in the International Style—in "rational construction," architects used materials such as concrete, glass, and steel, and boxlike cubist forms. "They designed exteriors as an asymmetrical whole within the regular rhythm of the structural frame..." (Stephen C. Gordon, How to Complete the Ohio Historic Inventory Form [Ohio Historic Preservation Office, 1992], p. 113). The characteristics of modern architecture, in turn, were made possible by modern building materials and methods, including steel and reinforced concrete construction, and the "dictates and economy of standardized building components as well as the need to equalize load bearing among all structural elements", which allowed greater freedom of design than had been possible in earlier eras (Lena Sweeten et al, "Ohio Modern: Preserving Our Recent Past: Statewide Historic Context" [2010], pp. 133-134; www.ohpo.org.:).

European beginnings, American evolution. The International Style first arose in Europe in the 1920s, then made its way to America. Like any fashion, the style changed gradually as it matured. "Subtle as these changes in design from the twenties to the forties may seem, transformations of consequence within any well-established style are likely to make their appearance in just such details" (Jordy, p. 178). In the 1920s, the roof terrace and the sky were emphasized; "thus providing a panoramic view of nature like that seen from the decks of ships." But the relatively high, generally compact boxes characteristic of European Modernism gave way, in the American environment, to a "horizontal building spreading to its site" (ibid., p. 177): qualities evident in the Rauh House. "This feeling for the stretch of the building in relation to the plane of the earth surely owes something to the 'rediscovery' of [Frank Lloyd] Wright in the thirties; in fact, by the end of that decade, the great professional had become a great celebrity as well" (ibid).

Early International Style buildings had planar, transparent, airborne qualities, with "seamless weightless-looking painted concrete surfaces." By the 1930s, however, brick-textured walls, like those of the Rauh House (the texture albeit subdued with white paint), gained in popularity. During the 1920s, the membrane-thin appearance of walls was emphasized by windows usually brought to the plane of the wall, thereby minimizing its depth. By the 1940s, windows were slightly set back in a series of planes as in the Rauh design.

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Due to social and stylistic conservatism, the International Style never achieved great popularity with the American public, particularly for residences. European architects working in the United States found clients among "intellectuals, political and social radicals, scientists, film stars, and artists" (such as the Rauh and Lowrie families) and sought support from avant-garde institutions and academic platforms (Mark Alan Hewitt, *The Architect and the American Country House, 1890-1940* [Yale University Press, 1990], p. 243). "Ironically, here was a style which, more consciously than any other in history, was directed towards the improvement to the comfort and convenience, health and happiness of society as a whole, yet there has probably never been an architectural movement more deeply distrusted by the public. Some process of humanization was necessary…" (Jordy, p. 1972).

Suburban Modern. Once an avant garde becomes established, "popularization also is the result." The 1930s saw a growing acceptance of the International Style: partly due to increased familiarity, partly due to the tendency of modern architects to gentle the "avant garde insistence" of the 1920s. During the 1940s and 1950s, the style "became more domesticated, vernacularized, diversified, and adapted to popular taste": succinctly, a shift from the *modern* house to the modern *house* (ibid, pp. 67, 169). Accordingly, "[t]he years from about 1935 to 1950 also saw the popularization of modern architecture" (ibid:, p. 174). In 1940, journalists James and Katherine Morrow Ford published The *Modern House in America*, documenting the achievements of avant-garde domestic architects working in the 1920s and 1930s. The authors preached and practiced the new life-style by living in a house designed by Walter Gropius and championing the work of the European immigrant architects who came to the United States in the 1930s.

A new social order for family life—more open, free, and informal, and simple—would be reflected in the new American house, with its activity zones, reciprocity of indoor and outdoor space, and ample room for new technologies and gadgets. Implicit in this ideology were modernism's familiar call for a new society and political order and a criticism of bourgeois family values. (Hewitt, p. 242)

Modernism began to appeal to a broad spectrum of popular taste in its consumable features. As postwar suburbs spread across the landscape, open plans, outdoor living and informality entered shelter magazines. "Redwood, the barbecue patio, the 'family room,' the 'picture window,' the kitchen 'pass-through,' the 'deck,' the 'storage wall,' the 'ranch house,' the 'split level,' and so on: these eventually became the bywords (or rather the 'buy-words') of the house builder. His more or less 'modern' product spread rapidly and widely after World War II..." (ibid, p. 175).

The "Americanization" of Modern also had ideological overtones in Cold War America. "Thus an 'American' modern was suddenly proclaimed in the pages of the consumer magazines. And its 'humanism' and 'individuality' were implicitly, and

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sometimes overtly, contrasted with the 'mechanistic' and 'communal' (even 'communistic') qualities of early European modernism" (ibid.)

Modernist architect Marcel Breuer, who successfully designed many single-family homes in America, tried to reconcile the two contradictory currents in half-approving, half-admonishing remarks at the Museum of Modern Art:

God knows, I am all for informal living and for architecture in support of and as background for this, but we won't sidestep the instinct toward achievement—a human instinct indeed.... The sensation of man-made space, geometry and architecture is there, together and in contrast to organic forms of nature and of man. 'Sol y sombra,' as the Spanish say; sun and shadow, not sun or shadow. (ibid:, p. 176).

The International Style in Ohio. Many of Ohio's International Style buildings predate World War II. Common characteristics of these buildings include

...the use of reinforced concrete, cubist forms, smooth exterior walls surfaces, asymmetrical massing, open floor plans, flat roofs, extensive use of glass, and metal frame windows. In residential architecture, windows were typically individual casement, or fixed glass, while commercial examples featured single-paned windows with metal frames. Many times, corner windows and ribbon windows also were used. Doors were normally very simple in design, with or without glass panels. Residential examples of the International Style in Ohio featured the use of glass walls and flat or ascending roofs. (Sweeten et al, p. 136)

Many of these characteristics are clearly evident in the design of the Rauh House, as well as its local contemporaries.

Cincinnati goes Modern: the beginnings. Often stereotyped as an architecturally conservative city, Cincinnati has a significant inventory of early Modernist buildings built in the mid-20th century. The first stirrings of Modernism were felt in the city in the 1930s: Like other stylistic shifts, its evolution was gradual. Cincinnati's early Modern buildings of the 1930s and 1940s often mixed elements of the International, Art Deco and Art Moderne styles. Many were residences, built on previously undeveloped sites in well-to-do suburban communities, and discussed in more detail in the following section.

In additional to residential work, Cincinnati produced two extraordinary commercial designs in the 1940s. The city's introduction to International Style Modernism, the Terrace Plaza Hotel, was built in downtown Cincinnati in 1946. Designed pre-World War II, it was not completed until afterward; the city's first major postwar building project. Rising 11 stories above the city's main street, the building was the first International Style hotel built in America: a state-of-the-art hostelry filled with modern art and furnishings as well as offices and shops. The mixed-use Terrace reinterpreted the city-

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within-a-city program of Rockefeller Center and Cincinnati's own Carew Tower (National Historic Landmark), developed by the same firm, for a new generation. According to Professor Patrick Snadon of the University of Cincinnati, the building's stacked-bond brick shell was unorthodox Modern, a typical "concession" to conservative Cincinnati taste. The Terrace was designed by the Chicago office of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, with Natalie DuBois as primary designer. The hotel closed in 2008 and remains vacant.

In 1943, maverick Cincinnati architect Woodward "Woodie" Garber began plans for a new office tower for Schenley Distillers. Meant to attract the company from New York, it was never built. "With a concrete-clad, steel frame, it would have been the first fully modular, prefabricated, curtain-glass-wall skyscraper in America. It also would have been the first office tower without fixed interior partitions and the first fully sealed climate-controlled building n the U.S." (Greinacher et al, *Fifty from the 50s: Modern architecture and interiors in Cincinnati* [Urban Currents, 2008], n.p.). Beginning in the 1950s, Cincinnati business leaders adopted Modernism for their headquarters and industrial buildings. Soaring "corporate modern" office towers added to the city skyline in the 1950s and 1960s include the Kroger Company headquarters at 1014 Vine Street, Provident Bank Tower at Fourth and Vine, two mid-rise buildings (one demolished) for the Procter & Gamble Company at Fifth and Sycamore, and the Du Bois Tower, home of 5/3 Bank, on Fountain Square.

With increasing acceptance, Cincinnati Modernism also became more diversified. The prolific firm of Carl Strauss & Ray Roush, for example, often practiced what they called "soft" Modernism. Strauss & Roush "softened" the style's hard edges with more comfortable, familiar materials: stone, wood and brick as well as steel, glass and concrete. Reflecting the growing environmental awareness of the 1960s and 1970s, the firm also showed great sensitivity to site atypical of doctrinaire Modernist practitioners.

During the 1950s and 1960s, Taliesin alumni Avrom and Benjamin Dombar and John DeKoven Hill designed a series of organic or Wrightian residences on suburban sites around Cincinnati. In addition, the master himself designed three Usonian houses in suburban Cincinnati, two of which--the Boulter House (1954) in Clifton and the Tonkens House (1954) in Amberley Village--are listed in the National Register.

At the other end of the Modernist spectrum, Woodie Garber continued to practice a hard-edged Modernism in his residential, commercial and institutional work. Garber's designs overall have a low survival rate, perhaps because of their uncompromising nature, as well as the irascible nature of the architect himself (ibid.).

The International Style in Cincinnati. After the MOMA modern architecture show closed in New York, it made a three-year tour of museums in the Northeast, Midwest and West, including the Cincinnati Art Museum. In what is surely no coincidence, over the next few years, a small, forward-looking group of architect-designed residences, including the Rauh House, were built in Cincinnati, showing the influence of the new International Style.

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The house generally recognized as the first Modernist house in Cincinnati, as well as the first International Style residence in southwest Ohio, is the Lowrie House in Clifton. Built in 1936, it is a cubic, somewhat stylized, flat-roofed residence of white-painted brick with steel casement windows, second-story balconies, and a contrasting band separating the first and second stories.

The house was built for Gale Lowrie, a professor at the nearby University of Cincinnati, and his wife, Agnes, an artist. Progressive intellectuals associated with the city's largest institution of higher learning, the Lowries "set a pattern for intellectual and artistic patronage of Modernism locally" (ibid.). The Lowrie House was designed by George Marshall Martin of the firm Potter, Tyler, Martin. Cincinnati architectural historians believe George Martin may have been trained by Paul Cret, whose work brought him to Cincinnati for two major projects during the 1930s: Cincinnati Union Terminal (1933; National Historic Landmark) and the New Deal model village of Greenhills (National Register, 1988). Surviving drawings demonstrate that the Lowrie House evolved from a conventional Tudor Revival design under the influence of Agnes Lowrie. The Lowrie House has been sympathetically renovated by its current owners.

Located next to the Lowrie House is the Marie Mayne House, built in the early 1930s. In contrast to its neighbor, the Mayne House is a more formal, classicizing design, built of white-painted brick with asymmetrically balanced façade and Art Deco detailing. Its architect has not yet been identified.

An early Modernist residence with theatrical flair was the Eugene Poellman House in nearby Lawrenceburg, Indiana (1939-1941), just across the state line. Here, architect Everett H. Crabb of Indianapolis reinterpreted the austere International Style with a verve and panache reminiscent of the Art Deco residences of Miami Beach. Long familiar to U.S. Route 50 travelers, the eye-catching pink-and-white stucco villa served as a gateway to Lawrenceburg until it was demolished in 2006. The Lowrie, Mayne and Poellman residences all demonstrate the lingering Deco and Moderne influences in Cincinnati Modernism of the 1930s.

Yet another pre-war International Style residence is the Hopkins House at 803 Floral Avenue in the eastern Cincinnati suburb of Terrace Park (1941; architect not identified). The Hopkins House's arresting design features a distinctive semicircular end bay, open at the second story and terminated by a tapered chimney stack. Steel casements and glass block ribbon windows accentuate the facade. The Hopkins House was built for a local concrete contractor whose work included the Cincinnati Water Works' Mount Airy Towers, massive Art Deco masonry structures built in the 1930s. Soon after its construction the house was featured in an advertisement for an unnamed electrical journal (Figure 23). Vacant and deteriorating for years, the house is being renovated by new owners.

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While economic stagnation meant comparatively little was built in Cincinnati in the 1930s, one notable exception was Greenhills, a model suburban village built by the New Deal Resettlement Administration 1936-1938. Its advanced planning, based on forward-looking European and American precedents, included winding streets following the contours of the land, buildings clustered to conserve open space, a modern shopping center with front parking, underground utilities and a surrounding greenbelt. The village's public face and primary buildings—the Community Building, poolhouse and shopping center—were frankly Modern, as were many of the multi-family, flat-roofed townhouses and apartment buildings. The original plat of the village was listed in the National Register in 1988 and is an American Planning Landmark.

The Rauh House in its local context. Few Modernist examples existed in the Cincinnati area, or in the state as a whole, when the Rauh House was built. Like the Lowrie House, the Rauh House did not originate as a Modern design. Instead, it evolved in accordance with the desires of the clients for large windows open to the surrounding woodlands, and the apparent desire of John Becker, primarily a commercial architect, to apply the industrial vernacular to a residential setting. (No documentation of the original design concept, if any existed, has been found.)

Once in its modern form, the house was designed as a midwestern response to European Modernism, "adapting modernist theory to midwestern sensibilities via softer edges, natural materials, and Prairie School inflections" (Kathie Von Ankum, "A Pulitzer for the Rauh House," *Modern,* Spring 2013, p. 52). It works as a Modernist concept from the ground up, laid out along a ridge and overlooking a creek, perfectly integrated into the surrounding woods. Each elevation expresses the design in a different way. "From one perspective, it's a tight, small cubist composition with intersections of voids; from another it resembles a modern ocean liner" (ibid., p. 50).

The house is built of readily available industrial materials as prescribed by the Bauhaus. It is unusual in its use of textured cinderblock rather than smooth stucco, although the joint lines reinforce the characteristic horizontality. "Whitewashed porous cinderblock arranged in a horizontal banding pattern provides texture to the façade rather than dematerializing it into the stereotypical white box. Windows are constructed from factory steel sash, and glass block is used on the two-story stair hall and in sky lights" (ibid.). Inside, first floor has large open and interconnected spaces, with a curtain dividing the living and dining rooms.

As mentioned previously, the Rauh House has many details, materials, and organizational aspects in common with Becker's own residence, which was built simultaneously and published in *New Pencil Points* in 1943. The Becker home was a two-story, L-shaped composition with one-story wings, built of white-painted cinderblock. It had an attached garage, rear terrace, front door with porthole window and canopy, and casement and ribbon windows. A deep overhang shaded the rear wall. (See "Developmental History" for further information about Becker.)

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Situated, like the Rauh House, in the center of an eight-acre tract,

...the house looks off southward to unspoiled views.... The family consists of husband, wife, two children (boy and girl), and the entire design of the house is intended to reduce housekeeping chores to an absolute minimum. Each bedroom contains sufficient built-in storage facilities to take care of the occupant's belongings at all seasons. The canopy over the long row of windows on the south side of the living-dining room is designed to exclude summer sun but admit winter sunlight generously. Construction is of cinder concrete block and wood siding with tar and gravel roofing.... It is particularly noteworthy that such items of equipment as closets, bookshelves, etc., are entirely built in and that the doors have sliding fronts that make the interiors completely accessible. (Garriott & Becker, architects, "Professional Man's Home in Ohio," New Pencil Points, October 1943)

Influences on the Rauh House. Influences on the Rauh design included Mies van der Rohe's German Pavilion at the International Exposition in Barcelona in 1929. Resting on a plinth of travertine, the relatively small roof plates of the exposition building supported by cruciform columns (which appeared to be holding the floating roof "down," not bearing its weight), the building appeared to be built of planes sliding past each other (Jordy, p. 157). Slabs projected out and over a pool, connecting inside and out.

Other possible sources for the Rauh House design were published widely in the 1930s. These include the Tugendhat House in the Czech Republic, a landmark early International Style residence designed by Mies van der Rohe. Built on three levels, the 1930 residence featured a flowing floor plan. The Rex Stout House (1930) in Danbury, Connecticut, designed by Kocher and Ziegler, also features elements found in the Rauh design. A model of the Edward Durrell Stone-designed Richard Mandel House, in Mt. Kisco, New York, was published in *Architectural Forum* in 1934 and the house was completed the next year. The Mandel House's steel stair and railing and stone-fronted fireplace mantel are almost identical to those found in the Rauh House, and the ribbon windows are similar to those in Becker's own home. Finally, the Rauh House manifests the influence of the Prairie houses of Frank Lloyd Wright; stretching long and low across the landscape.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

Rauh House. Frederick Rauh and Harriet Rauh lived in the house from its construction in 1938 until 1964, when they sold it to Dr. John E. and Catherine D. Albers. In 2005 the Albers family sold the house to a new owner, who attempted to subdivide and develop the property and tear down the house.

The plight of the house first came to the attention of Cincinnati Preservation Association and Modern architecture enthusiasts in late 2005. Over the next two years, local and

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national publicity, in print and online media, generated great interest in saving the building. Several parties offered to buy and restore the house, but their offers were not accepted. After the real estate collapse of 2008, the proposed development failed and the lender foreclosed on the house and land. Meanwhile, the building's condition worsened and the site became overgrown. Concerned neighbors then located one of the children of Frederick and Harriet Rauh, who acquired the house and property in 2010 and 2011 and donated them to the Cincinnati Preservation Association for the restoration project. Work was completed in the fall of 2012. In 2014 the house was sold to a new owner with protective covenants.

John Becker. Originally from St. Louis, Missouri, John William Becker (1902-1974) received degrees from Harvard and Washington (St. Louis) universities. He partnered with Hubert M. Garriott from 1931 to 1941, with Garriot and Henry A. Bettman from 1942 to 1948, and again with Garriott alone from 1949 to 1963. Becker is noted for his subtle early Modern residential designs, as well as his interest in progressive education and social causes. He served for 25 years on the board of the Cincinnati Art Museum and retired from practice around 1964. Many of the firm's drawings are preserved at the Cincinnati Museum Center Research Library (Walter E. Langsam. "A Biographical Dictionary of Architects Who Worked in the Cincinnati Area Before World War II." http://www.architecturecincv.org/programs/biographical-dictionary-of-cincinnatiarchitects/).

Garriott and Becker were best known for their public projects, including two Modernist fire stations built in Cincinnati in the mid-20th-century. Engine Company No. 5 (1958) in Cincinnati's Over-the-Rhine neighborhood is a two-story box with yellow brick walls and rear hose-drying tower. The upper-story living quarters are shaded by vertical blue louvers.

By the early 1960s, Garriott and Becker were "purveying a slick, International Style Modernism" (Greinacher et al). The Cincinnati Fire Division Headquarters (1962) in downtown Cincinnati is a "horizontal, glass and steel rectangle with strip windows enlivened with alternating metal sash between rows of blue enameled panels. It is raised on steel and concrete columns clad in blue mosaic tile. This composition: a glass box above 'pilotis' combined the forms of Mies and LeCorbusier and skillfully serves the functional program of the building" (ibid.). Garriot also consulted on the design of two Modernist buildings on the University of Cincinnati campus, the Langsam Library and the Patricia Corbett Pavilion.

One of the firm's few residential designs is the Rosenberg House (1955) in the Cincinnati neighborhood of North Avondale. As with the Rauh House, "[t]heir commercial experience shows in the steel-frame construction of this house" (ibid.). Covered in brick and vertical wood siding, the house has an H-shaped plan, with private and public spaces in separate pavilions.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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Garriott & Becker, architects. "Professional Man's Home in Ohio," *New Pencil Points*, October 1943.

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Riley, Terrence. *The International Style: Exhibition 15 and the Museum of Modern Art*, Columbia Books of Architecture, Catalogue 3. New York: Rizzoli International Publications and the Trustees of Columbia University in the City of New York, 1992.

Taylor, A.D., A.B., M.S. *Camp Stoves and Fireplaces.* Washington, D.C.: The Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1937 Von Ankum, Kathie. "A Pulitzer for the Rauh House," *Modern*, Spring 2013. **Online Sources**

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architects/. Accessed January 5, 2016.

J.S. Marcus, "Less is Still More: The Restoration of the Tugendhat House Brings Mies' Modernist Masterpiece Back to Life," *Wall Street Journal*, March 9, 2012.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form OMB No. 1024-0018 NPS Form 10-900 Rauh, Frederick and Harriet, House Hamilton County, OH Name of Property County and State http://www.wsj.com/articles/SB10001424052970203458604577262950686146704. Accessed January 5, 2016. Lena L. Sweeten., M.A., et al. "Ohio Modern: Preserving Our Recent Past: Statewide Historic Context." www.ohpo.org. Accessed January 5, 2016. Museum of Modern Art, "Museum of Modern Art, New York City, Announces Exhibition of Modern Architecture," n.d. https://www.moma.org/momaorg/shared/pdfs/docs/press_archives/71/releases/MOMA_ 1932 0008.pdf. Accessed January 5, 2016. **Previous documentation on file (NPS):** ____ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested ____ previously listed in the National Register previously determined eligible by the National Register ____designated a National Historic Landmark recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # ____recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # Primary location of additional data: State Historic Preservation Office ____ Other State agency Federal agency ____ Local government ____ University x Other Name of repository: Cincinnati Preservation Association

10. Geographical Data

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _HAM-08675-49_

Acreage of Property 8.96

Rauh, Frederick and Harriet, House Name of Property		Hamilton County, OH County and State
Use either the UTM system of	or latitude/longitude coord	linates
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4. Latitude:	Longitude:	
Or UTM References Datum (indicated on USGS n	nap):	
× NAD 1927 or	NAD 1983	
1. Zone: 16	Easting: 716760	Northing: 4347232
2. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
3. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
4. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
Verbal Boundary Descripti	,	ies of the property.)

The nominated area comprises the entire property associated with the Rauh House. It includes consolidated parcel 598-0060-0039-00 of the Hamilton County Auditor's records.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated area includes the entire property historically, presently and visually associated with the Rauh House and excludes surrounding properties under different ownership.

Rauh, Frederick and Harriet, House	Hamilton County, OH
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title: _Paul J. Muller, AIA and Mar	go Warminski_		
organization:Cincinnati Preservation A	Association		
street & number: 342 West Fourth Stree	t		
city or town: Cincinnati_	state: OH	zip code: <u>45202</u>	
e-mail_margo@cincinnatipreservation.or	g	-	
telephone:_513-721-4506	_		
date: April 12, 2016			
=			

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

• **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- Additional items: (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Rauh, Frederick and Harriet, House

City or Vicinity: Woodlawn

County: Hamilton State: Ohio

Photographer: Margo Warminski, Paul Muller, AIA (photos 5, 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18)

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- 1 of 18) Date Photographed: April 26, 2014. Looking east toward Rauh House.
- 2 of 18) Date Photographed: April 26, 2014. Looking toward rear elevation of Rauh House from wooded slope south of the house, View to the north.
- 3 of 18) Date Photographed: April 26, 2014. View of natural landscape southwest of the house. View to the southwest.
- 4 of 18) Date Photographed: April 26, 2014. View of restored stone fireplace and garden wall northwest of the house. View to the north.
- 5 of 18) Date photographed: October 19, 2012. View of south (rear) façade of Rauh House and wooded slope from Grove Road. View to the north.
- 6 of 18) Date Photographed: April 24, 2013. View of main (north) façade, west façade and open porch of Rauh House. View to the southeast.
- 7 of 18) Date Photographed: October 12, 2012. West façade and open porch of Rauh House. View to the east.
- 8 of 18) Date Photographed: October 16, 2012. View of south façade and south terrace and porch. View to the northeast.
- 9 of 18) Date Photographed: December 7, 2015. Detail views of south bay, corner windows, inset screened porch. View to the northwest.
- 10 of 18) Date Photographed: December 7, 2015. View of east façade of house, looking west.
- 11 of 18) Date Photographed: December 7, 2015. North facade of service/garage wing. View to the southwest from driveway.
- 12 of 18) Date Photographed: December 7, 2015. View of main (north) entrance to house, with brick treatment, porthole window, canopy and light fixture.
- 13 of 18) Date Photographed: April 27, 2013. Living room just after completion of restoration. View to the northwest.
- 14 of 18) Date Photographed: April 27, 2013. Restored living room, fireplace and bookshelves, looking toward terrace. View to the southwest
- 15 of 18) Date Photographed: September 12, 2012. Restored first-floor powder room. View to the northeast.
- 16 of 18) Date Photographed: April 27, 2013. View of kitchen, with replica cabinetry, linoleum flooring and countertops, and steel hardware. View to the northwest.
- 17 of 18) Date Photographed: April 27, 2013. Stairwell with glass block window, replicated steel handrail and chandelier. View to the west.
- 18 of 18) Date Photographed: April 27, 2013. View of former girl's bedroom, second floor, with restored desk/shelving and door opening to terrace. View to the south.

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Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Hamilton County, OH

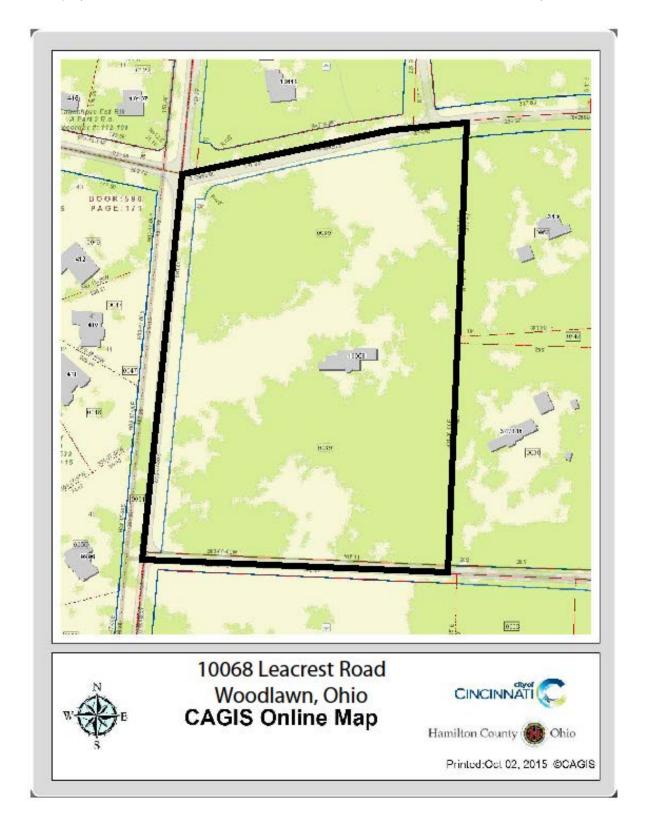


Map of 10068 Leacrest Road, Woodlawn, Ohio 45215



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Frederick & Harriet Rauh House

Woodlawn, Ohio



Locational Map Rauh, Frederick and Harriet House Hamilton County, OH

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Rauh, Frederick and Harriet House

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Frederick & Harriet Rauh House Woodlawn, Ohio



Locational Map Rauh, Frederick and Harriet House Hamilton County, OH

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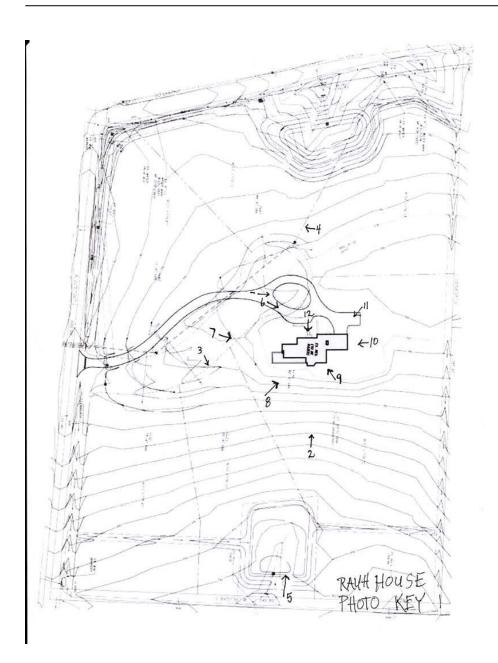
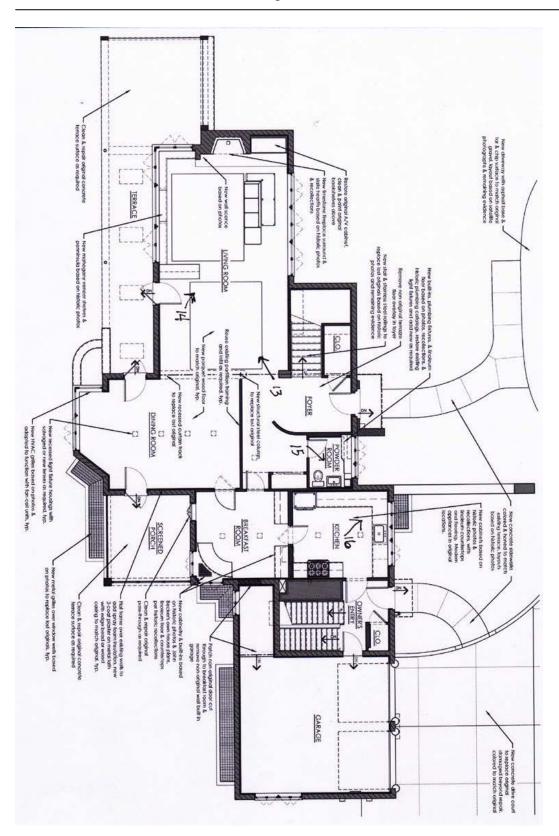


Photo Key Map Rauh, Frederick and Harriet House Hamilton County, OH

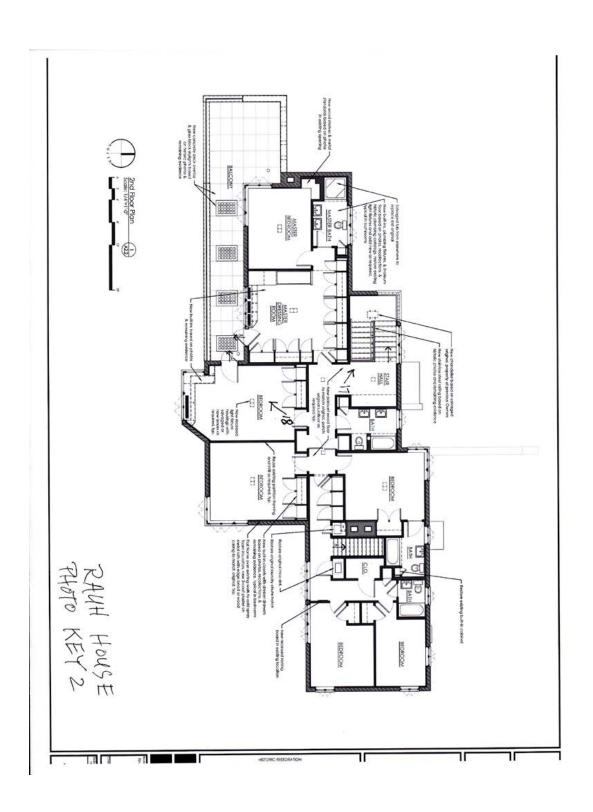
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Figure 1: 1938 newspaper clipping showing rendering of original Rauh House design. Source unknown.

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Figure 2: Historic photograph of Rauh House main entry (1938).

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Figure 3: Historic photograph of south elevation of Rauh House, 1938

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Figure 4: Historic photograph of Rauh House living room (1938).

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Figure 5: Historic photograph of Rauh House child's bedroom, second floor (1938).

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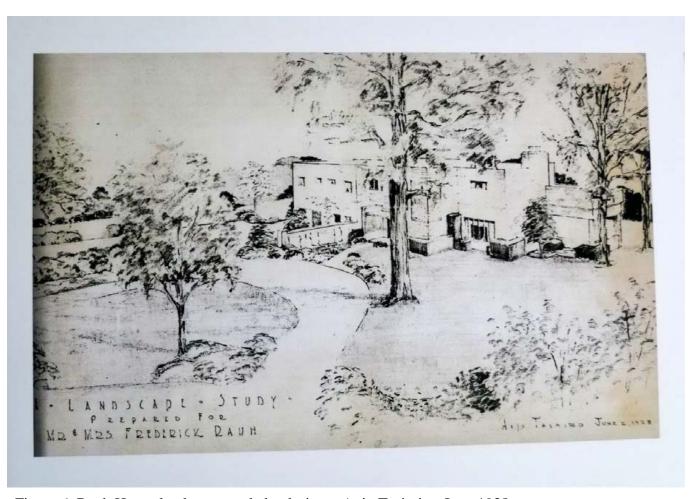


Figure 6: Rauh House landscape study by designer Anjo Tasimiro, June 1938.

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Figure 7: Electrical journal advertisement featuring the Hopkins House in Terrace Park, Ohio (built 1941).

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Figure 8: North facade of Rauh House before restoration (2010).

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Figure 9: Rauh House rear facade before restoration (2005).

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Figure 10: Rauh House living room before Figure restoration (2010).

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Figure 11: Rauh House west facade during restoration (2012).

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Figure 12: Rauh House during driveway reconstruction (2012).

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Figure 13: Replastering underway in the Rauh House living room (2012).

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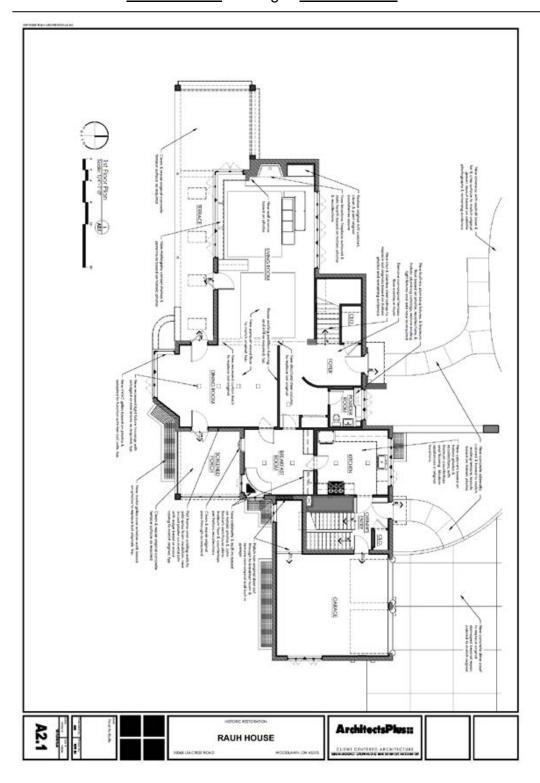


Figure 14: First floor plan.

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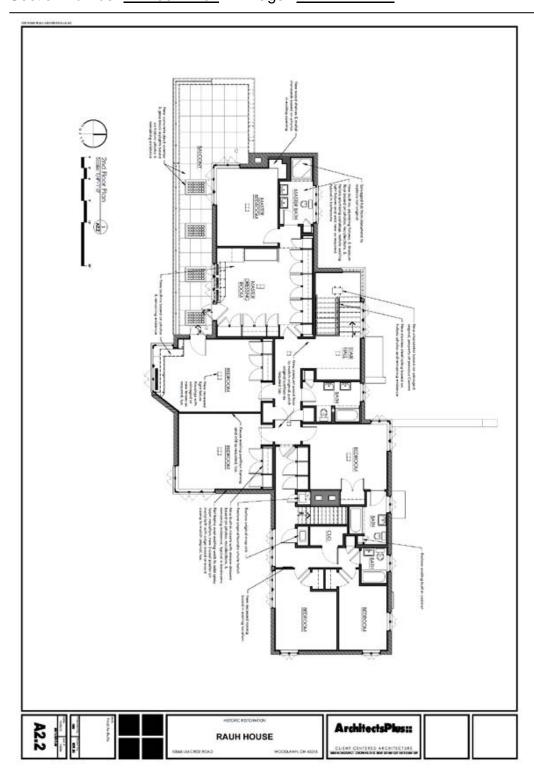


Figure 15: Second floor plan

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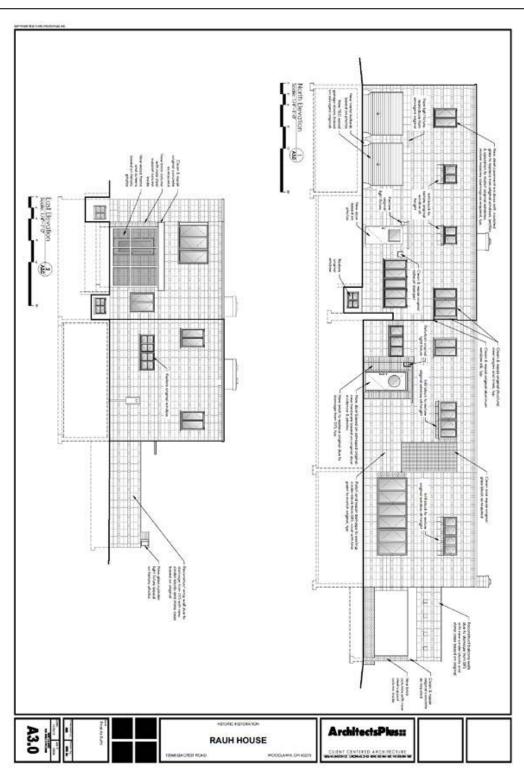


Figure 16: Elevations: north and east facades.

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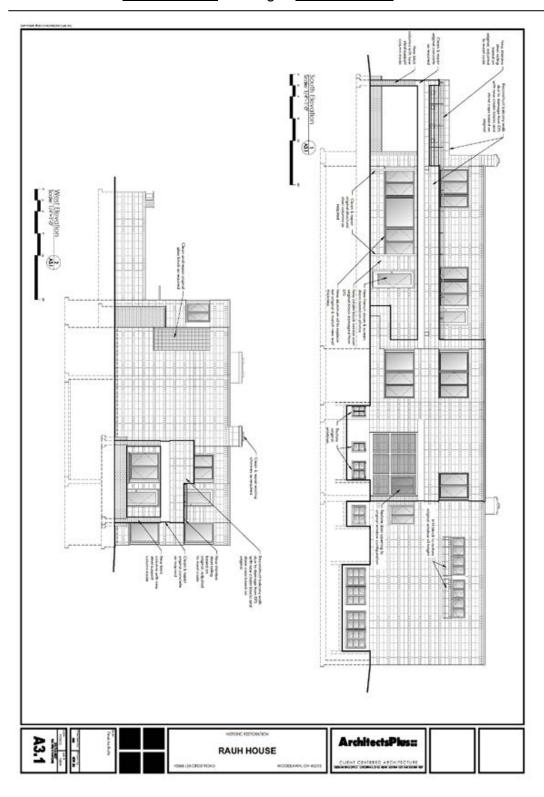


Figure 17: Elevations: south and west facades.





































UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION
PROPERTY Rauh, Frederick and Harriet, House NAME:
MULTIPLE NAME:
STATE & COUNTY: OHIO, Hamilton
DATE RECEIVED: 7/28/16 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/16/16 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST: 8/25/16 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST: 9/16/16
REFERENCE NUMBER: 16000597
REASONS FOR REVIEW:
APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N
COMMENT WAIVER: N ACCEPTRETURNREJECTQ.6, 6 DATE
ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:
Entered in The National Register
of Historic Places
RECOM./CRITERIA
REVIEWERDISCIPLINE
TELEPHONEDATE
DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



JUL 22 2016

Nat. Register of Historic Places National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NPS TRANSMITTAL CHECK LIST

OHIO HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE 800 E. 17th Avenue Columbus, OH 43211 (614)-298-2000

The following materials are submitted on July 15, 2016					
For nomination of the Rauh Frederick and to the National Register of					
Historic Places: Hemiet House					
	HAMCO OH				
	Original National Register of Historic Places nomination form				
	Paper PDF				
	Multiple Property Nomination Cover Document				
	Paper PDF				
	Multiple Property Nomination form				
	Paper PDF				
	Photographs				
/	Prints TIFFs				
	CD with electronic images				
	Original USGS map(s)				
	Paper Digital				
	Sketch map(s)/Photograph view map(s)/Floor plan(s)				
	PDF				
	Piece(s) of correspondence				
	Paper PDF				
	Other				
COMMENTS:					
	Please provide a substantive review of this nomination				
	This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67				
	The enclosed owner objection(s) do do not Constitute a majority of property owners				



RECEIVED 2280

JUL 2 2 2016

Nat. Register of Historic Places National Park Service

July 15, 2016

J. Paul Loether, Deputy Keeper and Chief, National Register and National Historic Landmark Programs National Park Service National Register of Historic Places 1201 Eye St. NW, 8th Fl. (2280) Washington D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

Enclosed please find seven (7) new National Register nominations for Ohio. All appropriate notification procedures have been followed for the new nomination submissions.

NEW NOMINATION COUNTY Cleveland Public Library Hough Branch Cuyahoga Commodore Hotel Cuyahoga Engine House No. 6 Cuyahoga Bappert, Joseph and Cecilia House Hamilton Rauh, Frederick and Harriet House Hamilton L. N. Gross Company Building Portage City Savings Bank and Trust Company Stark

The enclosed disks contain the true and correct copy of the nomination to the National Register of Historic Places for the following: Engine House No. 6, Franklin County, OH; Rauh, Frederick and Harriet House, Hamilton County, OH; L. N. Gross Company Building, Portage County, OH; and Trust Company, Stark County, OH.

If you have questions or comments about these documents, please contact the National Register staff in the Ohio Historic Preservation Office at (614) 298-2000.

Sincerely,

Lox A. Logan, Jr.

Executive Director and CEO

State Historic Preservation Officer

Ohio History Connection

Enclosures