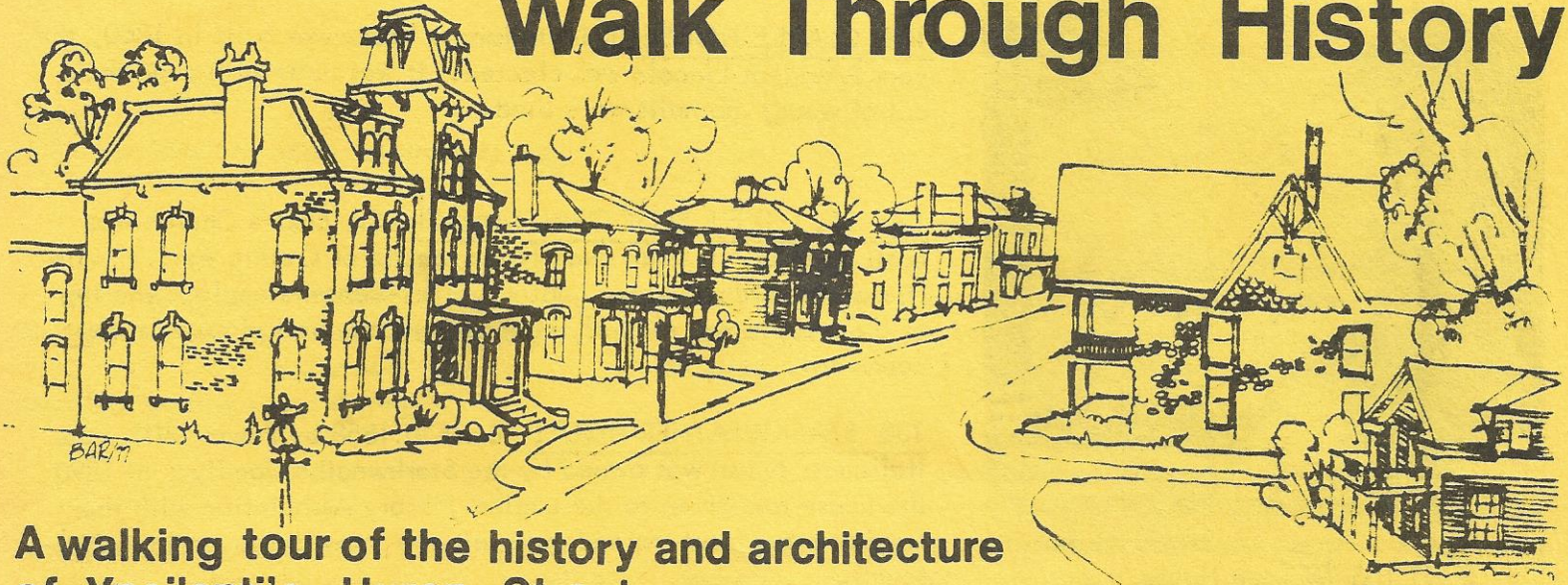


# Walk Through History



## A walking tour of the history and architecture of Ypsilanti's Huron Street

303 TOWNER HOUSE Attorney Marcus Lane built this house in 1837 on land he purchased 10 years earlier for \$45. One of the oldest houses on the street, it is an excellent example of very early Michigan Greek Revival. The Towner family owned the house for 100 years.

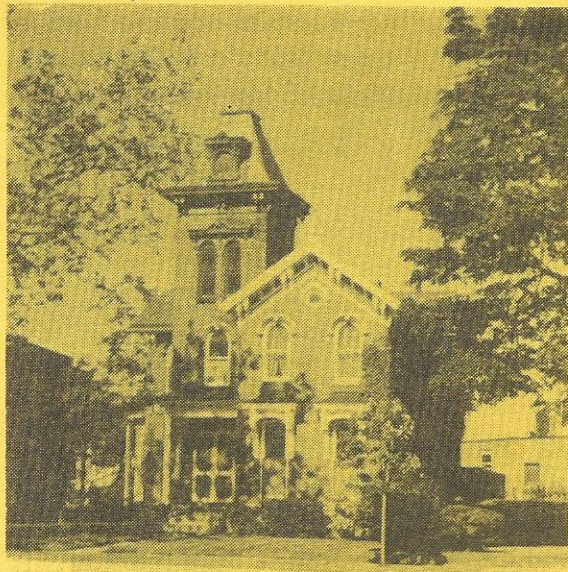
219 COBBLESTONE HOUSE Ypsilanti's only cobblestone house was built in 1846 by Attorney Farin C. Miles. It was later owned by Nathan Follett, owner of the Huron Flouring Mill and Robert Hemphill, bank founder and city treasurer, who remodeled it in the 1880's or 1890's in the Queen Anne style.

211 WHITMIRE HOUSE This center hall Greek Revival house, built in 1848, was turned sometime after 1910 so the gable now faces the street. Anthony Whitmire lived in the house for nearly 60 years.



125 Ballard House





121 Watling House

121 WATLING HOUSE Dr. John Watling, co-founder of the U of M Dental School, built this Italian Villa style house in 1865 and had his dental office in the front. (The tower is over 50' tall.)

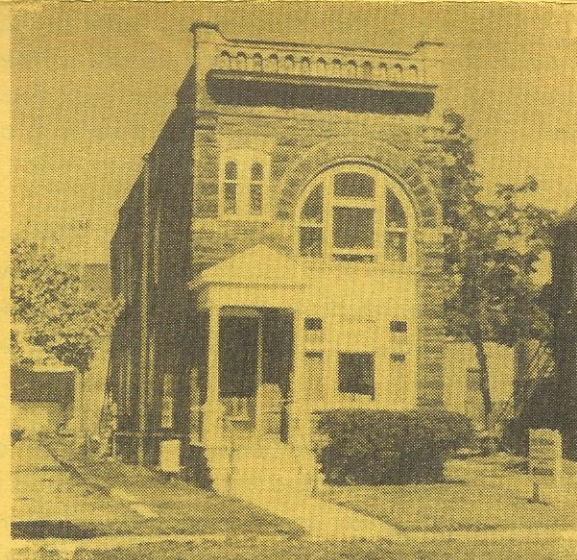
119 DENTAL OFFICE The distinctly Romanesque facade of this 1865 building is typical of the Richardsonian style and is constructed of sandstone in two contrasting colors. The building was probably Dr. John Watling's dental office.

105 WORDEN HOUSE This pre-1860 building belonged to John Worden who owned much of the land on Huron Street. It displays an Italian Renaissance influence which was very popular in Michigan architecture during the 2nd and 3rd quarters of the 19th century.

209 TUDOR HOUSE This half-timber and stucco house is very typical of the Tudor style of the 16th and 17th centuries. Records hint at the possibility that an older house was replaced with this Tudor style so fashionable in the 1920's.

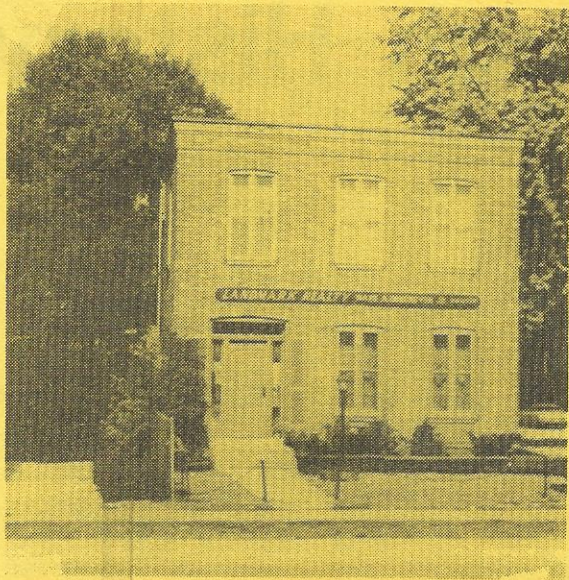
203 CORNWELL HOUSE This 1883 Queen Anne style mansion was built by Cornelius Cornwell and was the largest brick home between Chicago and Detroit. Cornwell, the first manager of the Telephone Company, had the first telephone in Ypsilanti -- a private line to Cornwell Paper Mills Company.

125 BALLARD HOUSE This Greek Revival house, built by Arden S. Ballard in 1830, is one of the oldest on the street. Ballard opened the Eagle Flouring Mill in 1839, helped start the Bank of Ypsilanti (Ypsilanti's first bank) in 1836, and became the mayor in 1859.



119 Dental Office





105 Worden House

108 CLARKE HOUSE This Italianate house was built in 1860, the year President Lincoln was elected. It was built with pegs made out of wood; no nails were used.

120 ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH St. Luke's Church was built in 1858. It is an excellent example of Gothic Revival with its pointed arches, steep gables and off-center steeple. The top of the steeple was recently removed and the bell placed in the courtyard.

130 STARKWEATHER HOUSE Built in 1858 by Edwin Mills, the Italianate house was owned by the Starkweather family. In 1890 the house was given to the Ladies' Library Association with the furniture and front stained glass window (now displayed in the museum).

206 SHOWERMAN HOUSE In 1834 the Showerman family arrived from New York by wagon. Delos Showerman, a son, built this Georgian house in the 1860's. William Deubel moved into the house from across the street about 1894. It is now the District Court.

214 THOMPSON HOUSE Frederick Andrews was the first owner of the Italianate building of the early 1850's. Later, in 1912, the house was bought by Benjamin Thompson, the son of Oliver Thompson (former mayor). It is now used by Washtenaw Community College.

220 BARNES HOUSE Built in 1860 by Asa Dow (an organizer of the First National Bank), this fine brick Italianate was the home of many prominent Ypsilanti families (Aaron Goodrich - Follett House manager, Lambert Barnes - Peninsular Paper Company). It is now the Ypsilanti Historical Society.



220 Barnes House





304 Quirk House

304 QUIRK HOUSE Dan Quirk built this Empire home in 1860. Dan Quirk organized the Ypsilanti Woolen Manufacturing Company, started the Peninsular Paper Company, and the city gas plant. The house and land along the river were donated to the city in 1914.

404 GREEK REVIVAL This house, probably built about 1845, is one of the few tall Greek Revival houses in Ypsilanti. Unfortunately, the house has suffered numerous additions and modifications, so little remains of the interior moldings, doors, etc.

410 CARPENTER GOTHIC This house was built in the style of Carpenter Gothic, a middle class version of Gothic Revival. The house has gothic arched windows and some "gingerbread" in the peak (acorn design). Once owned by a doctor, the second entrance was probably added for his office.

415 LEWIS HOUSE This house, built in 1860, is one of the most beautifully detailed Italianate houses in the midwest. It has an especially interesting cable (rope-like) decoration around the front door. The tack house at the north is an Italianate jewel.

411 TAYLOR HOUSE Although this Italianate house is similar to the Lewis house, it is not as ornate. However, because it does have a similar cable decoration, it was possibly built by the same carpenter. John Taylor of the Taylor and LeForge Hardware lived here in 1894.

FIRE STATION This structure was built in less than six months in 1898 for \$7,150 on land the city purchased for \$1,600. A local architect named Rorison designed this Italian Renaissance building, which has some interesting Romanesque detailing, especially in the tower.

Special Thanks to:

The Ypsilanti Historical Society  
and Archives  
Mr. Ward G. Swarts, A.I.A.,  
Architectural Consultant

The Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation