

THE YPSILANTI HERITAGE FOUNDATION
EXTENDS SINCERE THANKS TO THOSE WHOSE
GENEROSITY HAS MADE POSSIBLE THE
PRINTING OF THIS BROCHURE...

Ann Arbor Paint and Wallpaper 4573 Washtenaw	971-0868
Quality Print & Copy Center 1775 Washtenaw	485-4550
Congdon's Ace Hardware 111 Pearl, Ypsilanti	482-2545
Denis Schmiedeke, Architect	483-7622
Video Images 130 North Huron, Ypsilanti	485-1610
T.H.E. Market 19 East Cross, Ypsilanti	485-2711
River Art Works 48 East Cross, Ypsilanti	482-8785
Total Construction 519 Tyler, Ypsilanti	485-2255
Don Randazzo Restoration & Carpentry	482-6144
Ypsi Cycle 118 West Michigan, Ypsilanti	485-8070
Anonymous Friend	

AND TO THE FLORIST WHOSE BEAUTIFUL
ARRANGEMENTS HAVE GRACED THE HOMES
OF THIS YEAR'S TOUR...

Norton's, Florist and Greenhouses 2900 Washtenaw, Ypsilanti	434-0020
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AND TO THE ARCHIVES OF THE YPSILANTI
HISTORICAL MUSEUM FOR INFORMATION
USEFUL IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS
BROCHURE.

TICKET

- 123 College Place
- 310 South Huron
- 214 North Huron
- 300 North Huron
- 410 North Huron
- 17-25 East Cross
(Follett House)

Adults.....	\$4.00
Senior Citizens.....	\$3.00
Children under 12.....	\$2.00

Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation

Historic Home Tour



Sunday

August 25, 1985

12-5 p.m.

**WELCOME TO THE 8th ANNUAL
YPSILANTI HERITAGE FOUNDATION
HISTORIC HOME TOUR - a chance
to see historic preservation
in progress!**

Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation annual Historic Home Tours differ from other tours in one very significant way. They do offer the visitor a chance to glimpse other ways of life, to enjoy fascinating living spaces, and to glean ideas for one's own home. But, because the Heritage Foundation is an organization devoted to historic preservation, the buildings shown are all historic, either in years or in architectural style. Some buildings will still be undergoing renovation, enabling the visitor to literally see the "before", "during", and "after". All will demonstrate the one thing above all else which the Foundation hopes to teach, and that is that historic structures are one of the community's greatest assets - that in this time of escalating costs and dwindling resources, we can no longer afford to destroy potentially viable buildings.



123 COLLEGE PLACE
Ackley Residence

Built by Sidney Fisher in 1901, the house was purchased in 1904 by Delia and John Riggs, semi-retired farmers from Superior Township, who retained their farm but wanted greater proximity to city schools for their daughters Fay and Marian. According to Marian (later Mrs. Jack Willoughby of shoe store fame), the Riggs rented the upstairs to girls from "The College", and later to boys, when the College complained of inadequate reception room for boy callers.

The Riggs' tenure, through 1956, contributed a small addition to the original kitchen and modernization of the bathroom (the fine black and white tile was Marian's "pride"). In the 1950s, Mr. & Mrs. William Cornish built another kitchen addition, and in the 60s and 70s absentee landlords added various interior partitions, tile ceilings, and wall and floor coverings. The original arch-wall between front and rear parlors was demolished, and a brick fireplace added.

Since 1978, new owners David and Gayle Ackley have reclaimed original ceiling heights and, where possible, the original paper covered walls. The front entry hall required extensive reclamation of the beautiful bannister and fine oak woodwork.

The Ackleys find the simple form of their house an appropriate setting for their collection of 20th century furniture and decorative arts, featuring major design classics of the 1950s. As reported in a recent *Detroit Free Press* article, Ackley "looks for perfect examples of a movement in furniture design that began in the 1930s and blossomed after World War II...it makes very important design statements."

A view of this important collection of pieces by such famous designers as Charles Eames and George Nelson will bring a new appreciation of familiar pieces from the more recent past.



310 SOUTH HURON
Mindel Residence

The two-story brick house owned by Lolly and Tom Mindel was built about 1865 for the family of Lucian Bonaparte Keif, a woolen manufacturer from Manchester. It was originally built in the Italianate style, characteristics of which are still seen in the shape of the house and in its arched windows, similar to many 19th Century commercial buildings.

David Proctor, the last owner of the building, explained that members of his family had owned the structure since the turn of the century, with the exception of a period in the 1950s and 60s when it was owned by two social agencies.

In 1935, after a fire, his aunt Hildegard made many changes to the structure. The original wrap-around, "gingerbread" porch was removed in favor of the present front porch, build in the English Regency style (1811-1820), some features of which had their origin in the Far East (e.g., the concave shape of the roof line, like an oriental temple). The elaborate wrought iron work is said to have been brought from New Orleans.

Mrs. Proctor also installed new tongue and groove flooring and, more notably, two exquisite fireplaces originally imported from Italy, obtained from homes on Jefferson Avenue in Detroit. The one in the first floor parlor is of Carrara marble, while the one upstairs is of grey marble. It is said that a sixteen year old native Italian was found to do the delicate installation.

The Mindels purchased the house in 1978 and are in the process of restoring it, with living and dining rooms, kitchen, and one upstairs room completed. Current efforts center on restoring the master bedroom, which had been divided into four small offices.



214 NORTH HURON
Woodside Residence

This Italianate home, which appears largely in its present form on an 1956 Ypsilanti map, was built by early Ypsilanti pioneer grocer, Frederick Andrews. The Edgar B. Drury family became owners in 1875, and in 1912 Benjamin Dwight Thompson bought the property. For 56 years it remained the Thompson house until the City of Ypsilanti opened a teen center there in 1968. Eventually, the house was divided into offices and meeting rooms for use by Washtenaw Community College.

The Woodsides' labor of love began in 1979 when they purchased the structure from the City and set to work stripping old paint, planting flowers and trees, creating a lawn where a parking lot had been, and restoring the interior.

A fire several years ago, in the basement fireplace flue, nearly ended this venerable history, destroying part of the living room floor as smoke and fire poured through the cold air ducts. Quick action by the Woodsides averted a total disaster, but hundreds of hours of painstaking hard work had to be repeated to restore the house's former glory.

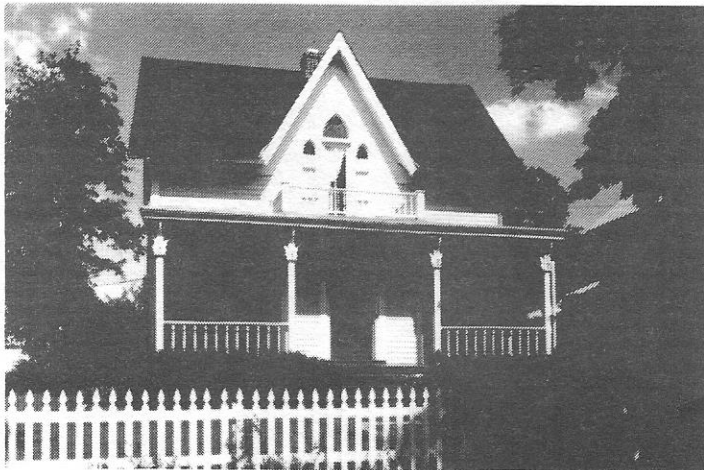
Note the building's characteristic Italianate style: low pitched, hip roof with brackets supporting wide eaves, ornamented portico over the front entry with its beautiful, beveled glass windows, and double bay windows. The unusual ceiling beams and new wood floor near the graceful living room fireplace were later additions.



300 NORTH HURON
Old Town Hall
Soule/Andrews Residence

This great, elaborately detailed example of Second Empire architecture is the crown of the entire North Huron Street vista. The center front tower rises majestically four flights above the entrance. The mansard roof, key to the Second Empire style, is of multi-hued slate with characteristically ornate dormers piercing the roof. Interior details include a fine staircase, walnut woodwork, and handsome double front doors.

The house was built about 1860 by Daniel Lacey Quirk, one of Ypsilanti's most prominent citizens and a founder in such enterprises as the Peninsular Paper Company, the city's gas plant, the First National Bank, and the Ypsilanti Woolen Manufacturing Company. Given to the City by the Quirk children, the house served as Ypsilanti's City Hall until 1978. At that time, once again in private hands, it underwent a major restoration as office and business space. Now the splendid structure basks under still more sensitive and considerate attention, bestowed upon it by its present owners and residents, Charles Soule and Karl Andrews.



410 NORTH HURON
Van Bolt Residence

Built about 1865, this lovely house is a fine example of the Carpenter Gothic style, distinguished by the intricately crafted detail, or "gingerbread", in the gable ends. That detailing is found here only in the north/south gables, but it may have once existed in the front gable as well. The Carpenter Gothic style is characterized by a rectangular shape with the long facade facing the street, a steeply pitched roof, high gables, and usually a porch the length of the front. Often, when more room was needed in this style house, an addition was made in the rear, to form a T-shape, as can be seen here. Note the Gothic arched windows flanking the door to the 2nd story balcony and the Gothic arches on the front door. The unusual entryway, featuring two interior doors, was most likely part of the original structure. City records in 1876 list the owner of the house as Eliza Dunham, widow of Dr. George Dunham, a dentist. City directories in the early 1900s indicate that Mrs. Dunham had "Beds" available, which meant that she ran a rooming house, probably for students of "The Normal", a very common means of livelihood then for widows in this college town.

The Van Bolts have spent countless hours in painstaking restoration. The kitchen is completely new, floors have been refinished, and furnishings collected to compliment the period. Most recently a garage was constructed on the property. The exact duplication of detail is outstanding. Rehabilitation work is still unfinished, which helps one appreciate the efforts which have gone before.



17-25 EAST CROSS
The Follett House

The Follett House, on Cross Street in Depot Town, is a symbol of early Italianate style, epitomizing "Civic Enterprise". Built as an overnight accommodation for railway passengers, it opened its doors on the Fourth of July, 1859. It was described as an elegant hotel, simple in design, but lavish in decoration.

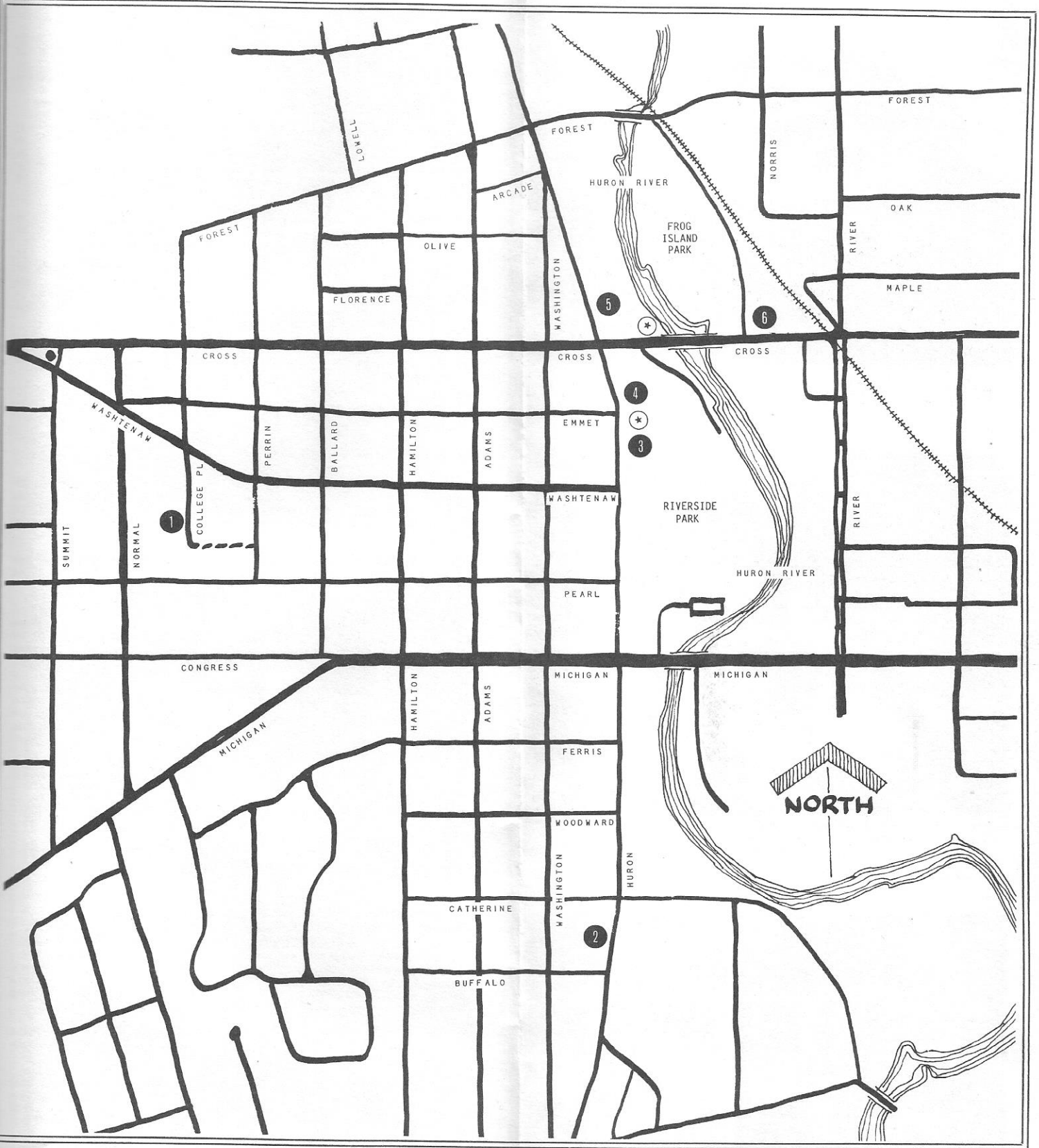
A sturdy, four-story building constructed of brick, with a foundation of split field stone, it was distinguished by six different styles of window hoods and trim. The west facade displays only three levels of windows, indicating the presence of the two-story Follett Hall ballroom. In the mid-nineteenth century, this elegant space was favored by the "better class" of traveling companies: Tom Thumb, The Bohemian Glass Blowers, and the Peak Family Bell Ringers all performed there.

At the turn of the century, the hotel (and Depot Town) fell upon hard times. "Up Town" gained supremacy. Increased traffic along the Chicago Road (Michigan Avenue) and a new bridge downstream contributed to the decline of Depot Town business. And when the interurban electric streetcar line was completed to Detroit in 1898, Depot Town was left to play second fiddle. In 1910, the magnificent Follett Hall became a warehouse.

The Follett House Associates, making a strong contribution to the revitalization of Depot Town, have rescued this building and undertaken its restoration. Recent work has included major roof repairs and reconstruction of the rear wall.

Two of the six second-floor apartments will be on Tour. The first, occupied by Lee Ann Flegel, looks out on the bridge and Cross Street, with glimpses of Frog Island and Old Town Hall. The second, smaller apartment was designed and built entirely by its occupant, Eric Ward, student of architecture at the University of Michigan. Peek behind his door and you will see the ticket window for Follett Hall!

A view of the unrestored Follett Hall awaits those who venture up a second flight of stairs. It is still a disaster zone and used for storage, but you can imagine what an elegant room it once was, with rose colored walls and highly elaborate cornice. Note the surviving medallions on the ceiling, the wainscoting, tall windows, and graining on the woodwork as you descend the curved stairway.



1. 123 College Place
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3. 214 North Huron
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5. 410 North Huron
 6. 17-25 East Cross
 (Follett House)

*Numbers are for identification only.
 Homes may be toured in any order.*

*Ticket booths