

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

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118 West Michigan • 485-8070

**Anonymous Friend**

AND TO THE ARCHIVES OF THE YPSILANTI  
HISTORICAL MUSEUM FOR INFORMATION USEFUL  
IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS BROCHURE.

AND TO NORTON'S FLORIST  
2900 Washtenaw • 434-0020  
WHOSE BEAUTIFUL ARRANGEMENTS HAVE  
GRACED THE HOMES OF THIS YEAR'S TOUR.

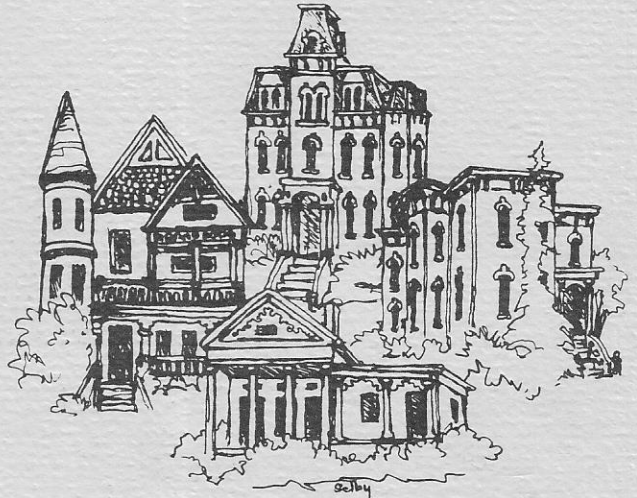
#### TICKET

- 1207 Pearl Street
- 1124 Grant Street
- 106 North Adams Street
- 427 North Hamilton Street
- 313 East Cross Street
- Starkweather Memorial Chapel  
(Highland Cemetery)

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

Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation

# Historic Home Tour



**Sunday**  
**August 24, 1986**  
**12-5 p.m.**

**Welcome to the 9th Annual  
Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation  
Historic Home Tour  
—a chance to see historic  
preservation in progress.**



*427 North Hamilton*

This charming, two-story Queen Anne house was built in 1888 by the Seagar family, and remained the Seagar family home for 95 years until 1983, when it was purchased by Barry and Diane LaRue. Now 98 years old, this home is of special interest because it remains physically almost exactly as it was built 98 years ago. Even some of the original planting remains, such as the rare Camperdown elm, the largest in Ypsilanti, which so gracefully dominates the front yard.

From an inviting entrance foyer, stairs punctuated by landings lead to bedrooms above. A strong sense of the home's history fills the living and dining rooms which lead to a large kitchen and pantry, and a delightfully refurbished Victorian bathroom.

With hard work and imagination and a keen sense for maintaining the period of the house, Barry and Diane have transformed it, after years of quiet decline, into a charming home once again. Their interest in restoration, flair for color, and antiques all have served to create a home which reflects the enthusiasm of a young and busy family.



*313 East Cross*

This stately Queen Anne home was built between 1880 and 1894, perhaps incorporating an earlier house but certainly demonstrating the features of this later style: steeply pitched gables, vertical windows, varied forms of siding, and lots of decorative additions, such as bays and porches.

But when Scott and Mary Kaye Riley purchased the house three years ago, it had been sitting empty for 18 years. You must see the Rileys' "before" and "after" pictures to appreciate what they have accomplished. A small sampling of their labors includes basic wiring and plumbing, an entirely new front porch with railing, a freshly painted exterior, interior woodwork that was removed, stripped, refinished and then rehung, a new bath, and a marvelous, large, sunny country kitchen.

The Rileys have furnished their home with antiques, giving it a warm feeling with country touches everywhere, like Mary Kaye's cross-stitching projects. The house is still "in progress" with entryway and hall yet to do, but it is a fine example of how dedicated people can restore the life of a historic structure.



*Starkweather Memorial Chapel*

This small but wonderful Romanesque Revival chapel was constructed in 1888 in memory of her husband by Mary Newberry Starkweather, local philanthropist. With the round-arched windows and doorway decorated with acanthus leaves, heavy rectangular tower, and Greek cross form, this red sandstone and cut fieldstone chapel recalls the solidity and grace of medieval Romanesque churches. From the interior, the light streams through the blue and gold Tiffany windows and brightens the dark oak woodwork, offering a serene site for burial services today as 98 years ago.

However, in recent years the chapel has fallen into serious disrepair which threatens its very existence. Under the leadership of Bill Durant, a maintenance fund has been established; work is beginning on the roof, soon to be followed by ceiling replacement, removal of a false partition which hides apse windows, and other restorations as are made possible by contributions.

After viewing the chapel, be sure to see the Quirk Mausoleum and to take in the history and tranquil beauty of Highland Cemetery.



*1207 Pearl*



*1124 Grant*



*106 North Adams*

When *Better Homes and Gardens* featured Bob and Joanne Gillman's soda fountain in their remodeling issue last year, they mentioned that it was in a former garage, but they didn't go far enough. In reality, this large, fascinating home began in 1934 as a tiny Cape Cod, similar in style to others on the block. After touring the parlors, the den, the country kitchen, the enormous dining area, five bedrooms, sun porch, patio and pool, step back and examine the roof line to see how this house was built out, up, and over the original version, incorporating both their garage and that of a former neighbor. They moved the neighbor's house across the street so that they could keep adding on, but they kept both basements, connected by a tunnel.

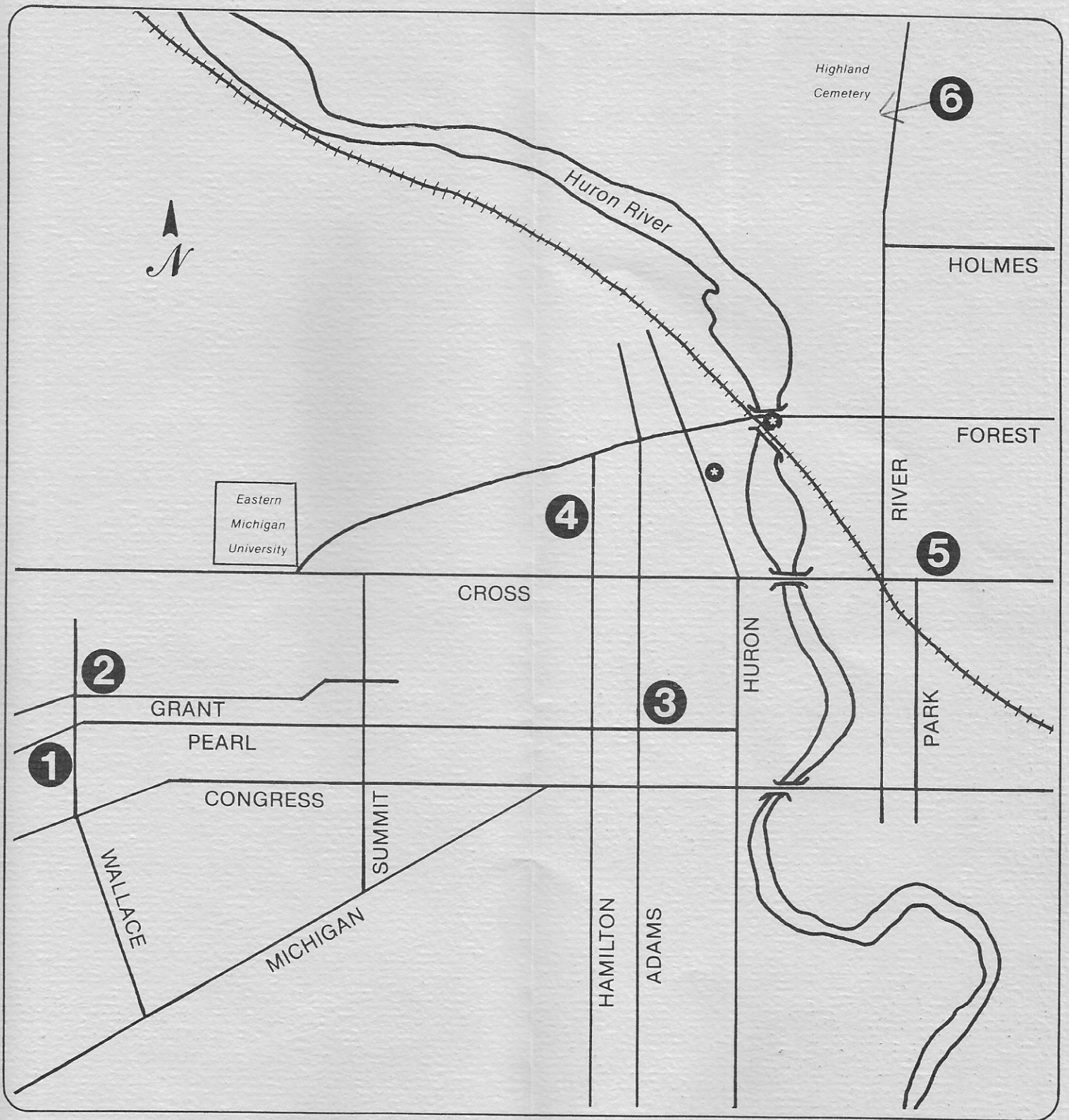
This home demonstrates a most effective use of space, reclaimed antiques, and rehabbing of other people's throwaways, including a tin ceiling and confessional doors from St. John Catholic Church, bathroom fixtures from an old Kresge Dime Store, ceiling wallpaper made from collected newspaper headlines, and, of course, the ice cream parlor from Rose City.

Built in 1926, this Colonial Revival house was constructed as a model home and was the residence of the contractor, Allen Dieter, until 1942. Then followed a succession of owners, until 1975 when it was purchased by its present residents, Bob and Shari Strauss.

In renovating the exterior, Bob and Shari removed the old siding, applied new aluminum siding in the size of the original clapboard, and then added a simple colonial style picket fence. The house is typical of housing constructed in the 1920s when pride of craftsmanship and serious interest in "revival" architecture prevailed. On entering, you will see that although the layout of the home remains basically unchanged, the flavor of the 1920s is gone; instead, visitors step back into the 1800s. From the tin lighting, painted wood floors, stencilled walls, collections of redware, yellowware, baskets, and teddy bears to the lovely samplers (all stitched by Shari), no detail has been spared. The home has been lovingly decorated to reflect the owners' personalities and their fondness for primitive furniture and accessories.

When Mark and Barbara Harris bought this home in 1968, it was in "dilapidated and terrible" condition. The house had been built by Dr. Thomas Shaw in 1892 as an office for his medical practice as well as his own residence. His daughter, Miss Shaw, continued to live there until 1968. At one point, she used the downstairs as a habberdashery but never altered the Queen Anne features of the home. Notice the exterior with its multi-gabled roof, its polychrome stone foundation, its decorative brackets, and the angled and finialed second story window, all of which provide the desired variety in decoration.

The Harris spent over ten years restoring the house. Although they no longer live there, they have chosen as tenants people who appreciate the unique features of the home, such as the handblown cranberry glass at the top of the doors between livingroom and foyer. Tenant Don Bronson, owner of DB Interiors, especially likes the restored wood-burning stove. All tenants have decorated to complement the home with a comfortable mixture of country pieces, collectibles, and contemporary upholstered furniture.



1. 1207 Pearl
2. 1124 Grant
3. 106 North Adams
4. 427 North Hamilton
5. 313 East Cross

6. Starkweather  
Memorial Chapel,  
Quirk Mausoleum  
(Highland Cemetery)

\*Ticket booths

*Numbers are for identification only. Homes may be toured in any order. Note that Highland Cemetery has graciously opened its gates to visitors until 6:00, one hour after the Home Tour, to permit time for a walking tour of its monuments.*