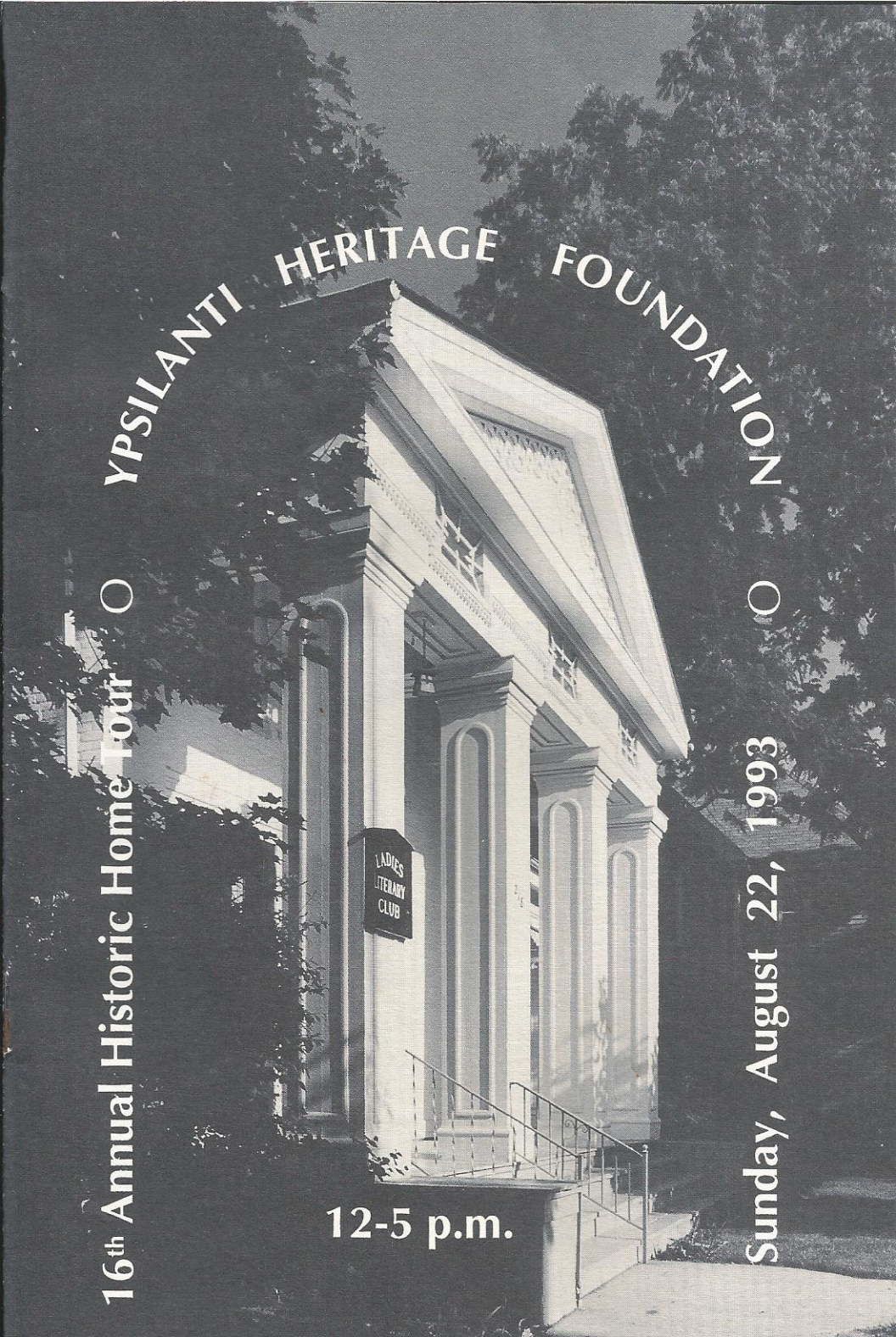


16th Annual Historic Home Tour ○

YPSILANTI HERITAGE FOUNDATION ○

12-5 p.m.

○ Sunday, August 22, 1993



Welcome

to our Sixteenth Annual Home Tour. The homes and public buildings on this year's tour are representative of the many beautiful and significant structures that make up Ypsilanti's wealth of historic architecture. Once again, Ypsilanti residents and organizations have graciously agreed to open their doors so that we all may see and appreciate the results of this community's historic preservation efforts. We take this opportunity to thank them.

Although the structures are numbered for your convenience in the brochure, you are free to visit them in any order you wish. Enjoy the tour!



Restroom facilities are available during the tour at the Ladies Literary Club, 218 N. Washington, #2 on the map.



3

213 N. Huron Billie Wardell

Built in 1912 and originally known as the Deubel House, this home is a wonderful example of the Homestead House Style, a style most associated with a rural past and based on generations of homes easily recognizable from drives in the countryside. Unlike the “period houses’ of this time, the Homestead House was not a revival style, but was instead a progression of the Georgian/Colonial/Classical vernacular houses that had developed in the 19th century. This makes the Homestead House a uniquely American architectural style.

It was built for Dee Deubel after she returned from a two-year period of study in Germany, with her mother and sister. Dee Deubel lived in this home until 1976. The house was updated during the early 1920’s, when the sun porch and large bathroom were added. Roomers were taken in during the Great Depression and soon after the house was divided into apartments. The apartment on tour, currently belonging to Maureen Fitzgibbons, is the one in which Dee Deubel resided.

The present owner of the house has spent many hours restoring the original hardwood floors and dark woodwork throughout. The sun porch, with its original tile floor, is furnished with vintage iron furniture and accessories.

The bathroom retains its original tile and pedestal sink. Pieces of art and furniture throughout the apartment are treasures which have been saved from untimely demises. Custom oak furniture built in antique styles, some with salvaged materials, compliment this comfortable space.



411 N. Huron Steve and Elaina Hoxie

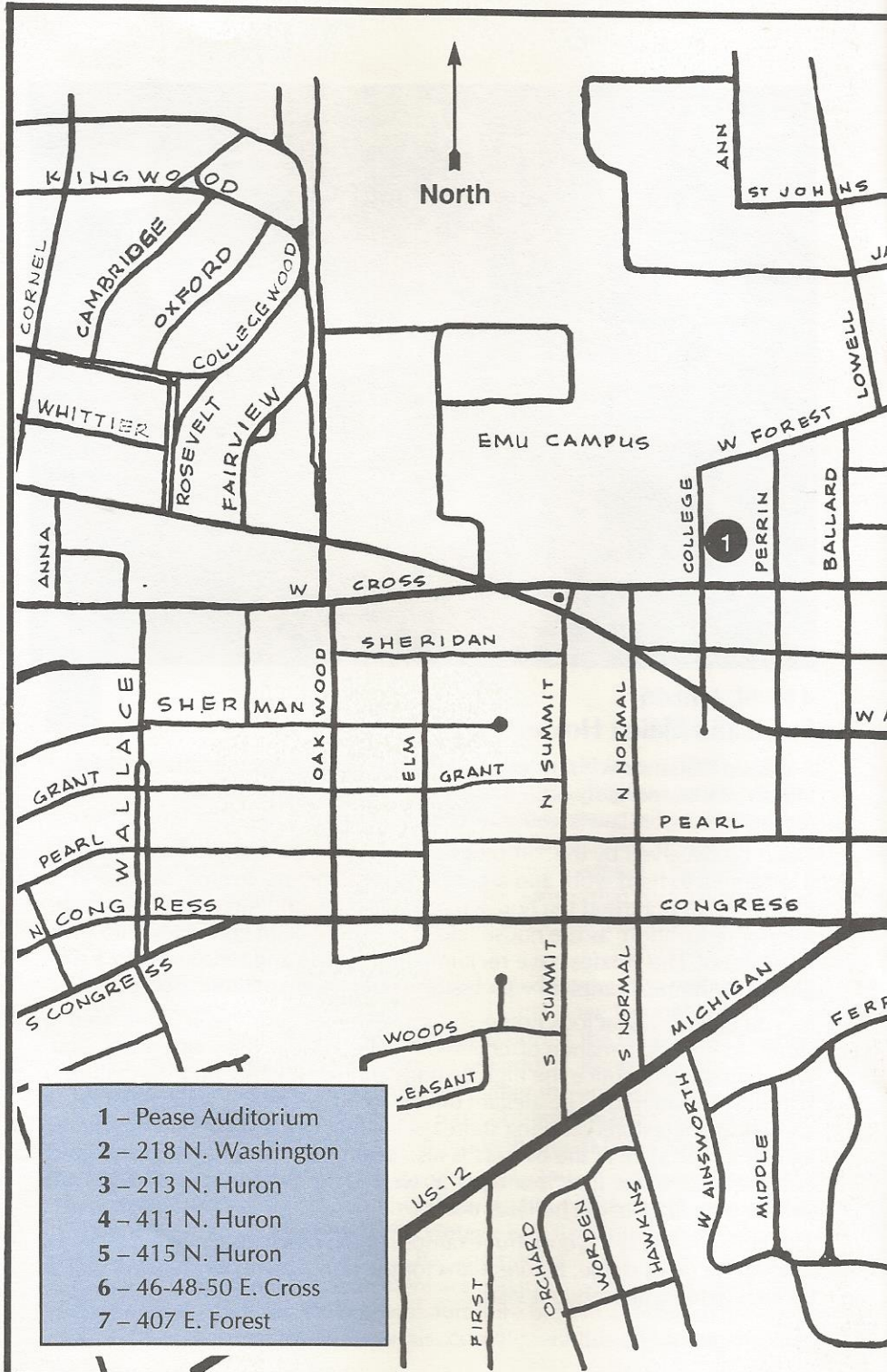
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A classic Italianate with its low pitched roof and projecting eaves, 411 N. Huron was purportedly built in the 1860's by the same builder responsible for the Wilkinson-Lewis house next door at 415.

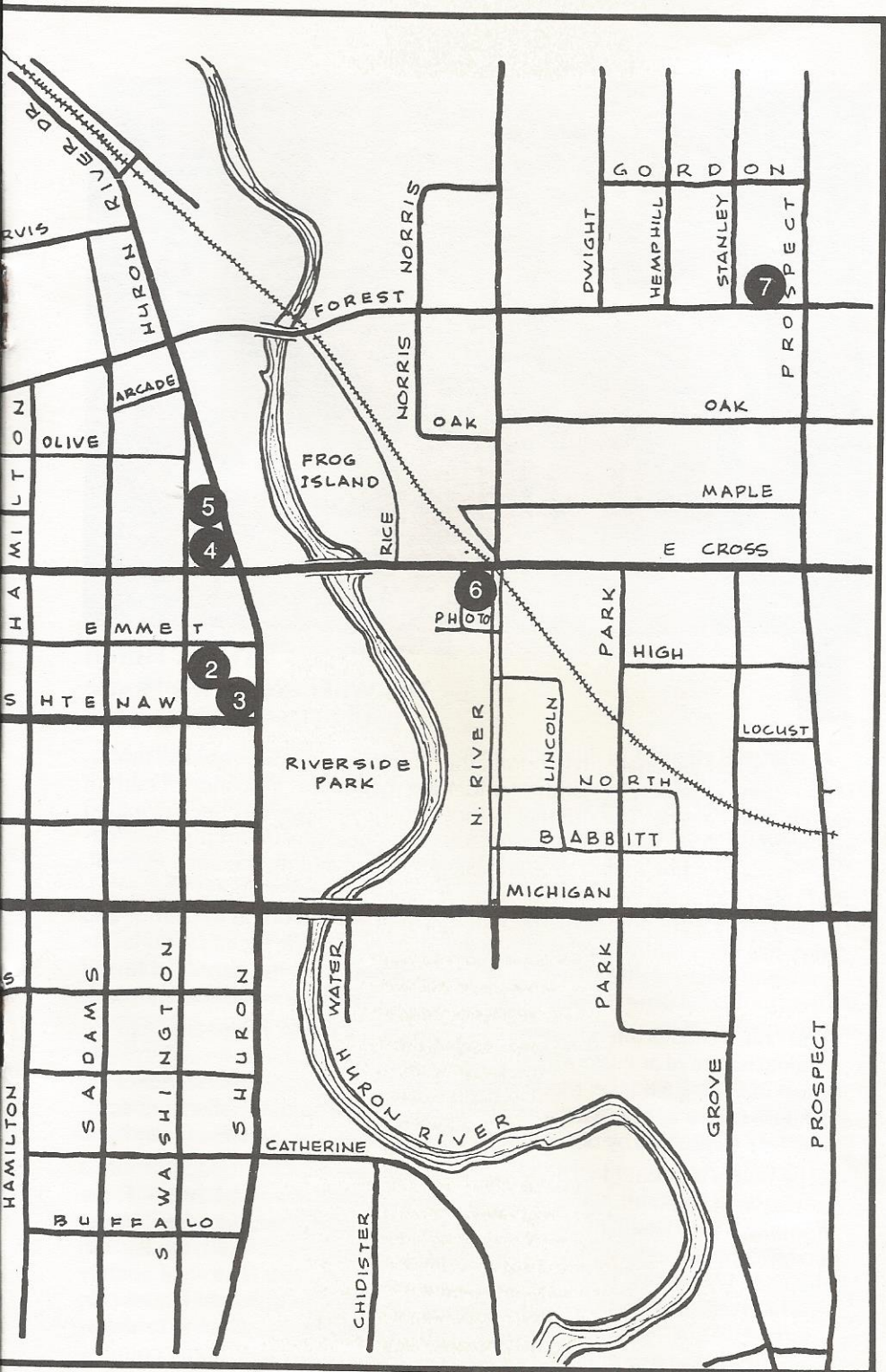
Don't be deceived by the "in-progress" look of the exterior. The interior is a testament to hard work and a gem waiting to be discovered. Steve and Elaina Hoxie purchased the house three years ago and have done extensive interior renovation, as the house had at one time been converted into five apartments. The Hoxies have reclaimed the house and returned it to a single family home, complete with historic detail and authentic decor.

As you enter this gracious home you step into the parlor which has been restored to include a mantle discovered in a Depot Town antique shop. You will immediately notice the high ceilings and the inviting floor-to-ceiling windows throughout. The elegant dining room has peach walls, oriental carpets and a restored curving staircase leading to the second floor. The imagination and style of the owners is also seen in the classic green and gold color scheme of the first floor bath, as well as the deep burgundy walls and yellow pine floor of the billiard room.

The Hoxie home is a wonderful example of the magic that can occur as a renovation takes shape. Future plans for the home are extensive and will be well worth a subsequent visit.



- 1 - Pease Auditorium
- 2 - 218 N. Washington
- 3 - 213 N. Huron
- 4 - 411 N. Huron
- 5 - 415 N. Huron
- 6 - 46-48-50 E. Cross
- 7 - 407 E. Forest



5
4

2
3

6
PHOTO

7



5

415 N. Huron
The Wilkinson-Lewis House
Earl Greene

A graceful Italianate Style home, the Wilkinson-Lewis house has undergone extensive restoration under the meticulous guidance of current owner, Earl Greene. The original grandeur of its heritage has been revealed and restored. After painstaking hand scrubbing of layers of dirt film, wallpaper and paint, elaborate stencils on the high ceilings became evident. Bracketed Italianate ceiling moldings in the parlor were stripped until original colors were revealed. The black walnut woodwork in the parlor and entry has been refurbished without stripping or sanding by lifting off layers of blackened shellac. Ceiling medallions and stunning faux marbled slate fireplaces accentuate the elegance of the early years.

This conscientious interior restoration process is a model of research into the original nature of an historic dwelling. The interior combines several styles of design including Eastlake, Modern Gothic and Neo Greco. The exterior of the house is clearly Italianate with a low pitched roof, wide overhanging eaves supported by decorative brackets and tall narrow arched windows.

The house was built in 1878 by James Wilkinson for his mother, Anna, a native of Dalkeith, Scotland and granddaughter of an earl. In 1905, the home was purchased by Mrs. Lewis, a widow with young children. It was occupied by the Lewis family until Miss Evangeline Lewis sold it to Eastern Michigan University. It later was owned by the Ypsilanti Historical Society which selected Earl Greene, from other bidders, to restore the house. In June, 1992, a "Scottish Open House" was held by Mr. Greene to showcase the restoration and honor the original owners' home country.



46-48-50 E. Cross Richard and Marian Reid

6

This large, Commercial Italianate structure was built in 1865 by the order of the Masons. Similar in design to the Thompson Block across River Street, it is thought to have been constructed by the same builder. In its century-plus of existence, the Masonic Block has endured the ravages of time. Fires and the weather took their toll and the far east end of the structure was demolished by a 1939 train wreck. In the late 1970's, the building was rescued by Tom and Bettie Dodd, who did extensive rehabilitation over a number of years. Richard and Marian Reid purchased the building from the Dodds in July of 1991.

This building is now developed in the way urban planners encourage, housing four thriving businesses in three storefronts, four delightfully varied apartments on the second floor and an elegant penthouse apartment on the third floor.

The Reids' 3000 square foot penthouse, on tour, is larger than many houses. Its Art Deco and modern decor is designed to enhance rather than conquer its enormous spaces and with tall windows flooding its 16 foot (two story) rooms with light, its atmosphere is one of gracious serenity.

On the second floor, dubbed "The Ritz," is the apartment of Amy McMillan, decorated with Victorian pieces and retaining its original kitchen cupboards and 14 foot windows. Also in "The Ritz" is Gerry Curtis' spacious, modern apartment decorated in a comfortable, easygoing manner. These three living spaces are typical of the unique apartments which can be created in an old commercial building.



7

407 E. Forest
Larry and Lynda Hummel

This trim, Colonial Revival cottage beckons intriguingly to passers-by, an effect enhanced by the candles that Lynda Hummel places in the windows during the winter holidays and the seasonal wreaths displayed at the center entry throughout the year. Known to have been standing as early as 1923, the house exhibits features typical of Colonial Revivalism, an architectural manifestation of the renewed interest in American culture which swept the country after the 1876 Centennial.

Harkening back to the early Dutch and English houses of the Atlantic seaboard, Colonial revivalism emphasized the principles of rationality and order. Hallmarks of this style include the open, ordered floor plan and symmetrically-placed windows containing multiple upper panes over a single pane, as seen here. The central fireplace and one-story end porch on this house are more modern features found in Colonial cottages later in the period. Shingles or clapboard were often used as cladding.

The house retains its original woodwork and floors, including a maple floor in the kitchen and an oak floor in the bath, which also contains a claw foot tub.

The Hummels, who have lived here since 1972, raised a family of five in this three-bedroom home and three generations of heirlooms and memorabilia attest to ongoing family ties. A whimsical note is added by Lynda's painted folk-art bird houses and whirligigs and her love of buttons, which are seen throughout the house.

The Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation,

a non-profit organization founded in 1974, is dedicated to the idea that one of Ypsilanti's greatest resources is its wealth of historic architecture which, if conserved, rehabilitated and utilized, can add immeasurably to the betterment of the whole community. The Foundation seeks to increase public understanding and appreciation of the importance of these architectural links with our past, to educate the community in the philosophy and purpose of historic preservation, to actively engage in historic preservation projects and to encourage public and private preservation efforts in whatever ways possible.

Proceeds from the Foundation's Historic Home Tours fund an annual scholarship which allows an intern to assist the Ypsilanti Historic District Commission during the summer months. Proceeds also support the historic structure marker program and preservation programs throughout the year. In addition, a portion of the proceeds from the 1993 tour will be donated by the Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation to The Friends of Pease to aid in the restoration of Pease Auditorium.

The ticket holder expressly assumes all responsibility for any personal injury or property damage occurring while on home tour.

Home Tour Committee:

Peg Du Fresne, Chairman; Jonnie Bryant, Lorelei Crawford, Kim Koch, Diane LaRue, Mary Ann McDonald, Emily Jean McFadden, Penny Schreiber, Grace Sweeney and Jane Van Bolt.

Ticket Sales: Eric Walters and Lisa Mills Walters

The Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation extends sincere thanks . . .

To the Archives of the **Ypsilanti Historical Museum** for information useful in the preparation of this brochure.

To **Norton's Florists and Gift Shops**, 2900 Washtenaw, Ypsilanti — 434-0020, for their beautiful arrangements which grace the homes on this year's tour.

To **Sara Reeside** — 882-7178, for the design of this year's Home Tour poster and postcard.

To **Judi Monaghan** for the management of our mailing list.

To **Sprentall's Picture Framing** — 995-4415, for the framing of the commemorative photos.

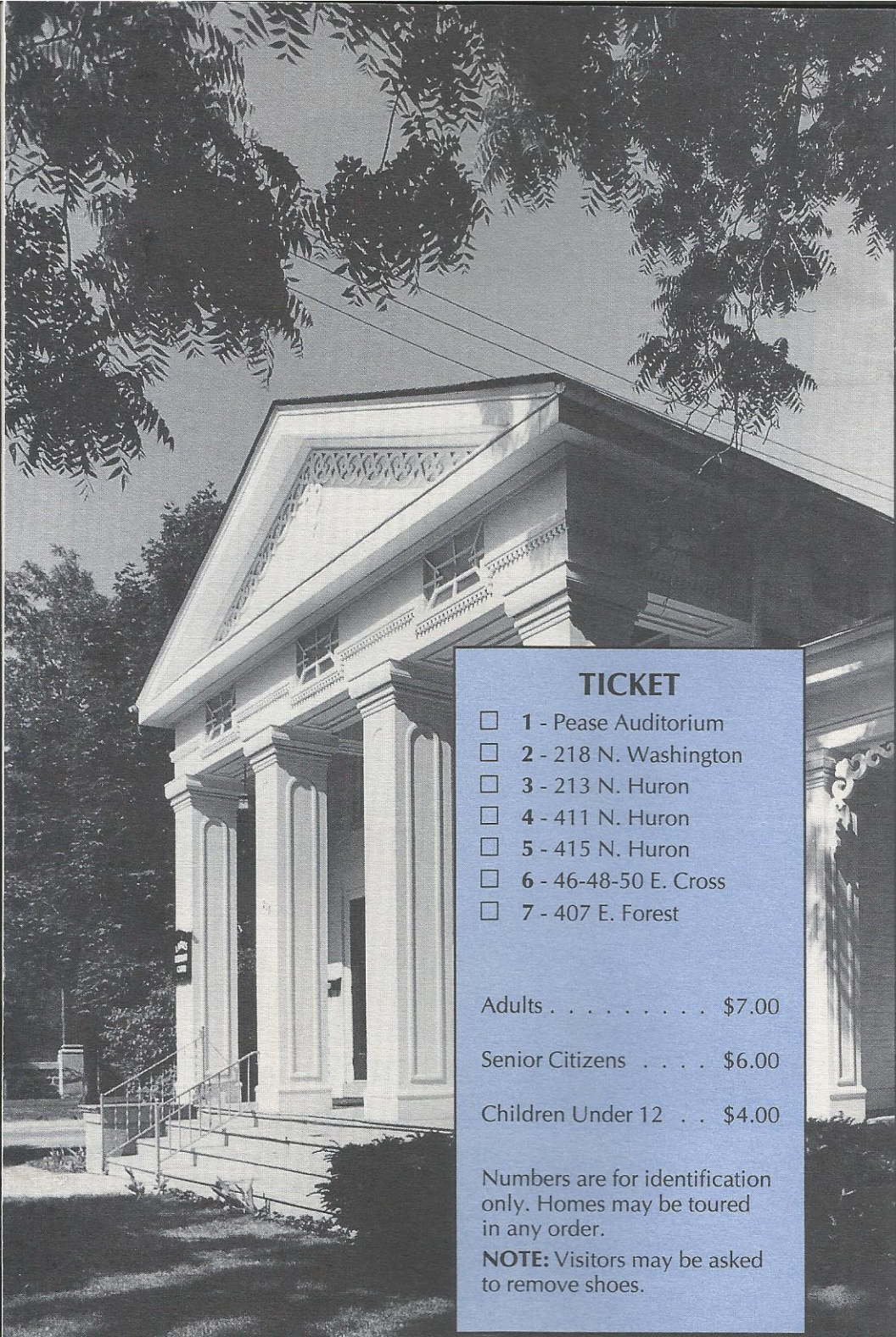
And to all of the **volunteer guides** on this year's tour.

Brochure Design and Production by **Carolyn McKeever** — 483-4256

Diane Brown — (517) 592-8708

Brochure and Commemorative Photos by **Denis Schmiedeke** — 483-7622

Brochure Printing by **McNaughton & Gunn, Inc.** — 429-5411



TICKET

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Adults \$7.00

Senior Citizens \$6.00

Children Under 12 . . . \$4.00

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

NOTE: Visitors may be asked to remove shoes.