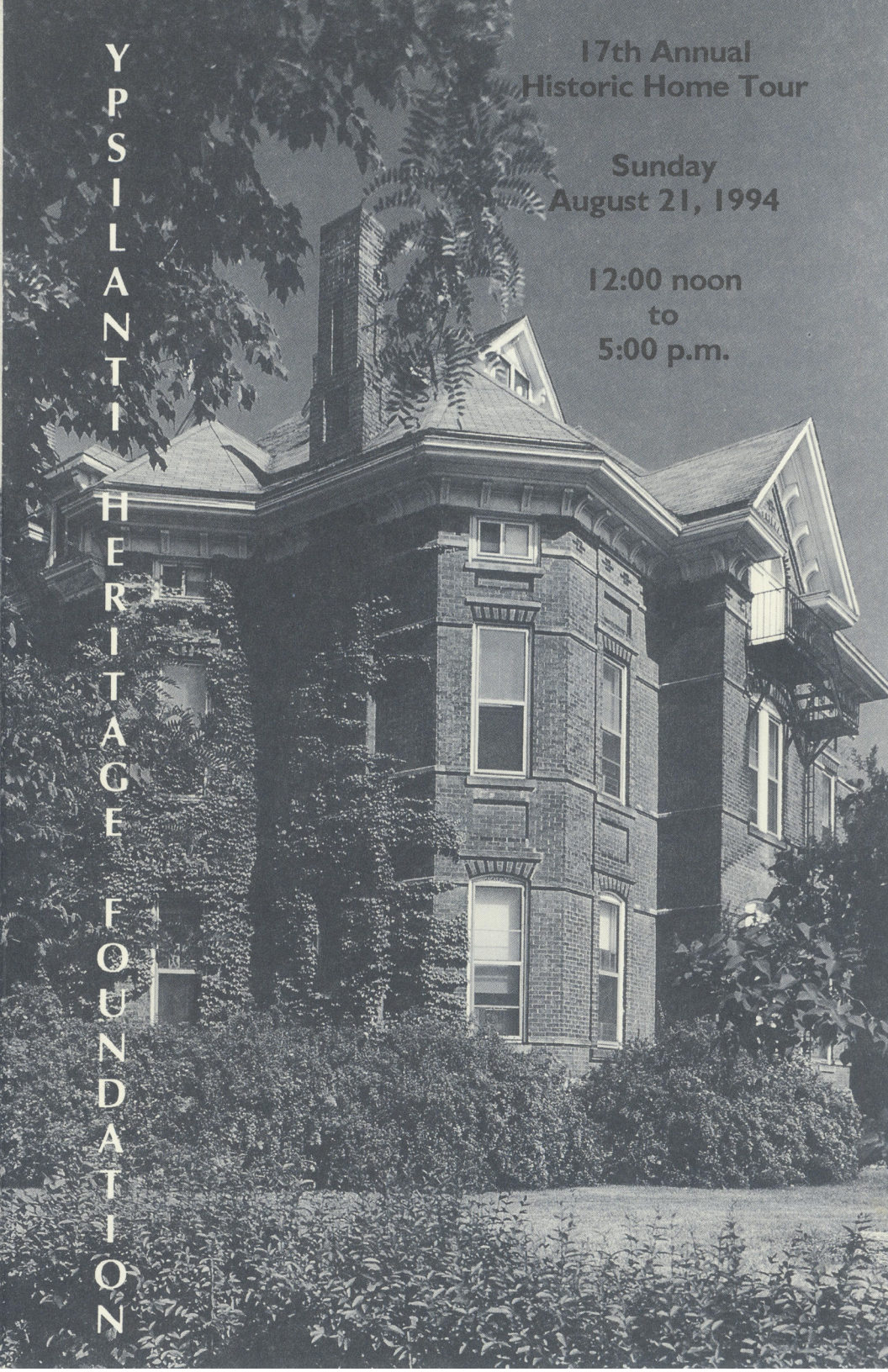


Y  
P  
S  
I  
L  
A  
N  
T  
I  
H  
E  
R  
I  
T  
A  
G  
E  
F  
O  
U  
N  
D  
A  
T  
I  
O  
N

17th Annual  
Historic Home Tour

Sunday  
August 21, 1994

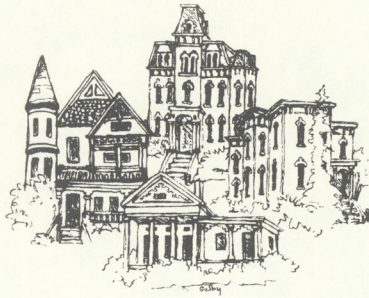
12:00 noon  
to  
5:00 p.m.



## *Welcome*

to our 17th Annual Home Tour. The homes and businesses 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 business owners 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!



*Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation*



Celebrating Our 20th Anniversary

We suggest that tourgoers drive to each area to save time.  
Restroom facilities are available during the tour at the James Breakey Inn, #4 on the map.



1

## 311 N. Wallace Bill and Karen Nickels

Harvey Woodbury, a contractor, built this Colonial Revival Style house for his own family in 1921. In 1932, it became the home of George and Oramel Ennen. Bill and Karen Nickels purchased the property from the Ennen estate in 1973 and raised their son, Craig, in the house.

The cedar shingle exterior and oak trimmed interior, so popular during the early years of this century, are typical of the Colonial Revival Style. Bill and Karen have cleverly incorporated portions of other houses into 311 N. Wallace. The woodwork for the open stairway in the living room came from a house in Ann Arbor and was installed by Bill. The wonderful bathroom vanity upstairs is a prize from Anna Thompson Dodge's Rose Terrace in Grosse Pointe.

The interests, hobbies and history of Karen and Bill and their families are reflected throughout the house. Karen collects plate sets and china, Bill's automobile memorabilia is on display and their furniture includes many treasured family pieces.

As you leave the house, notice the luminaire on the patio, which originally illuminated a street in Greektown in Detroit. It now sheds its light on the handsome, tree-shaded terrace decorated with Victorian cast iron urns.



2

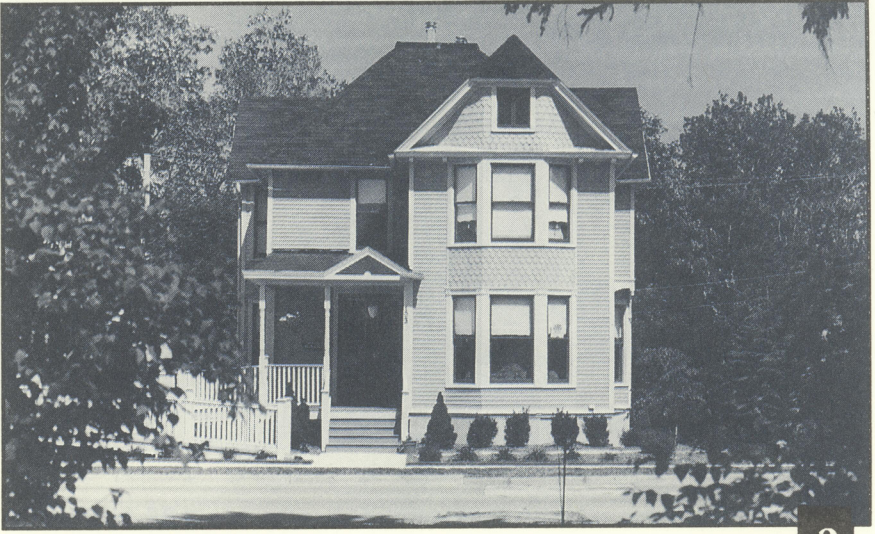
## 325 N. Wallace Barbara and Alan Saxton

325 N. Wallace is an example of the most common type of vernacular form of Prairie Style houses built after the turn of the century. Prairie Style could be described as a more sophisticated and elitist version of Craftsman. Homes in this style were built with an emphasis on honest expression and restrained ornamentation, partially as a reaction to the ostentatious Victorians. The elements in this home most popular to Prairie Style are the multi-paned windows with vertical wooden muntins, the hipped front roof and the center front entry. At one time, the house most likely sported a front porch running its entire width.

It was built in 1910 by Edwin Gee and the family lived in this home for several years, until his death. Edwin Gee served as an instructor at Cass Technical High School in Detroit and as a music instructor affiliated with the Michigan State Normal College (now E.M.U.). Mr. Gee enjoyed his daily commute on the trolley line which ran outside his door, on W. Cross Street.

The Gee's were quite the land barons, owning many acres adjoining their home. The seven maple trees on the median surrounding the home are said to have been planted upon the births of their seven children.

Barbara and Alan Saxton moved here in the autumn of 1988. Avid and enthusiastic restoration buffs, their delight in their home and beautiful gardens is clearly evident. Much of this home remains as original, including light fixtures, doors and hardware. The Saxtons are remodeling the kitchen and have decorated the home beautifully with lace curtains, wicker furniture and collections of hand crafted keepsakes. Don't miss the gardens out back, including a water garden and an old-fashioned perennial garden.



### 103 S. Huron The Parish House Inn Louis and Jane Rome

The charming Queen Anne house at 103 South Huron was built in 1893 as a parsonage for the First Congregational Church and was originally located on N. Adams Street. For many years, the house was home to the church's pastors and their families and, later, served as church office and Sunday School classrooms.

In 1987, Louis and Jane Rome purchased the building and moved it to its present location, still within the City's Historic District. When the city passed an ordinance allowing bed & breakfast establishments, the Romes hired an architect to redesign the building for that purpose. Plans were drawn and construction began to transform the parsonage into an elegant bed & breakfast. In August of 1993, the Parish House Inn was opened.

The nine guest rooms, two parlors and breakfast room are all stunningly decorated in Victorian colors and wallpapers. Each room is furnished with period antiques. The overall atmosphere is further enhanced with other Victorian details, such as pedestal wash basins and feathery down comforters atop lush, inviting beds.

The parlors, decorated in rich shades of ruby and mahogany, offer guests the comfort of a cozy fire during the cold winter months. During the summer months, an inviting patio offers welcome breezes and a view of the Huron River.



4

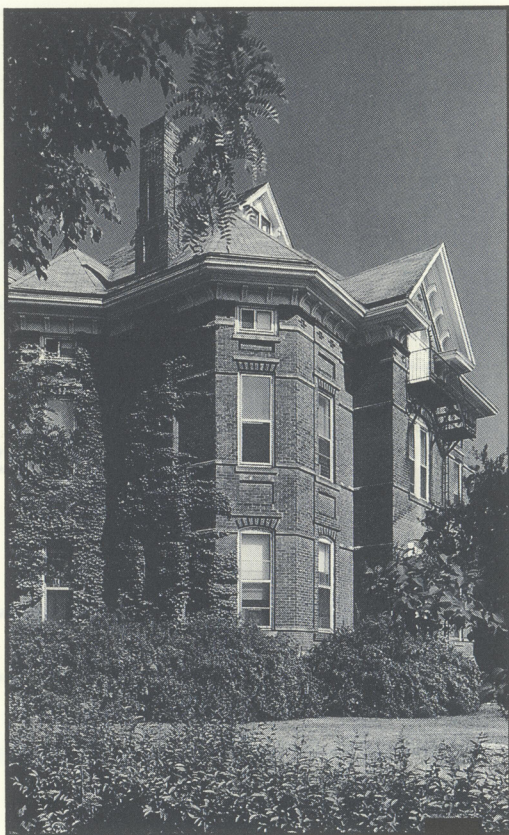
**125 N. Huron**  
**The James Breakey Inn**  
**Kaye and Oscar Haab**  
**Greg and Lisa Welch**

Lot #101 of the original plat of the Village of Ypsilanti has undergone many changes since first being sold by John Stewart for \$10.00, in 1827. The first simple dwelling on this land was erected by Dr. Daniel White and was expanded into a modest Federal Style home of stone and brick during Marcus Lane's ownership, 1834-1840. Arden Ballard, the next owner, began adding, between 1845-1851, the classical elements that give the Breakey Inn its grand Greek Revival Style that we see today.

This Greek Revival conversion was a popular transformation of the times. During the years 1820-1855 more houses were built in, or converted to, the Greek Revival Style than any other type in America. Enthusiasm for the style was founded in both archaeological and political roots and, in the case of conversions, because of the practicality of its simple-to-add wooden elements.

Dr. James R. Breakey moved his family into 125 in March of 1916. His son, Judge James Breakey, made his home here in 1925, adding the rear section that year, and lived here until 1966. Since then, the house has survived the threat of demolition and has been the home of the Ypsilanti Board of Education. It later became the offices of the Ypsilanti Chamber of Commerce and is now an elegant, in-house catering establishment and conference center.

The James Breakey Inn still stands as one of the notable homes in the area and is listed in both The Historic American Buildings Survey of 1936 and Rexford Newcomb's Architecture of the Old Northwest.



5

## 201 N. Huron Haab Apartments Ron Miller

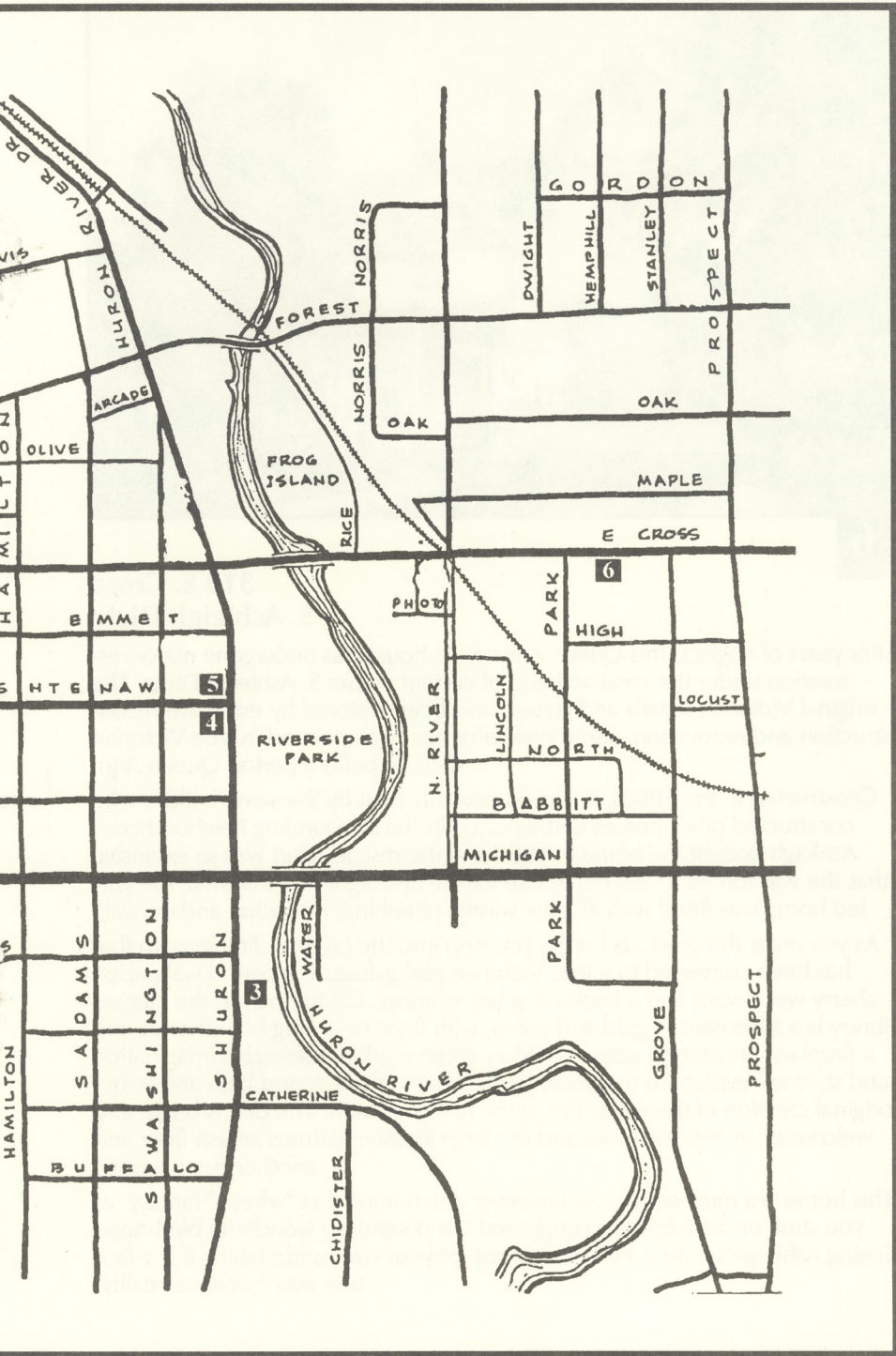
When Cornelius Cornwell built this imposing structure in 1883, it was reportedly the largest brick residence between Detroit and Chicago. It also had the distinction of having the first telephone (a direct line to the Cornwell Paper Mill) and the first water service in Ypsilanti. Cornwell, who resided in the home until 1899, was an original stockholder in the First National Bank, mayor in 1886, and was active in the area's pulp and paper industry. Augustus Beyer purchased the home in 1905 and still resided there in 1920. Director of both the First National Bank and the Savings Bank, Mr. Beyer also had interests in the woolen mill and donated funds for construction of the first Beyer Memorial Hospital.

The building is one of Ypsilanti's rare examples of Georgian Revival architecture, as evidenced by its symmetrical form, central entry with gabled roof, close and even spacing of brackets along the overhang at the roof's edge, and the imposing pediment crowning all. Strong influences of the slightly earlier and very popular Queen Anne Style can be seen in the bay windows, the courses of stone linking the windows, prominent chimneys, stained glass and ornamental brickwork and the high-pitched roof with its many facets, gables and dormers.

Converted into 24 apartments in the 1930's, the building housed University teachers and students through the years. Heavily damaged by fire in 1977, it has been carefully and extensively restored and now contains 12 apartments imaginatively created within its historic framework. On tour are one efficiency and three apartments, each offering a unique design in this historic building. Mr. Miller's unit, on the third floor, is of special interest with its multi-level design, skylights and unusual wall spaces which respond to the dramatic roof angles.









6

### 310 E. Cross S. Ashleigh Dietz

After years of neglect, this Queen Anne Style house has undergone major restoration under the creative hand of current owner S. Ashleigh Dietz. The original Victorian details and layout have been restored by extensive reconstruction and renovation, and the exterior has been painted in true Victorian style, as befits a period Queen Ann.

Constructed in the 1880s, it was purportedly built by the same builder who constructed other homes of the period in the surrounding neighborhood.

Ashleigh bought the home in 1988 and the rescue effort was so extensive that she was forced to live elsewhere for the first eight months while the gutted home was fitted with all new wiring, plumbing, insulation and drywall.

As you enter this gracious home, you step into the original dining room that has been converted to a true Victorian parlor featuring period wallpaper, cherry woodwork and a beckoning bay window. Off the parlor, the elegant library is a statement in gold and green, with floor-to-ceiling bookshelves and a fireplace encased in complimentary green marble. Ashleigh's imagination and style are evident in the decor of the second floor period bath and in her original creation of the wallpaper in the first floor bath. The den is bright and welcoming in delicate blues and the large kitchen features an ash floor and another bay window.

This home is a must-see if you have ever entertained that "what if" fantasy as you stroll or drive by some neglected but potentially wonderful old home. Seeing Ashleigh's finished effort may inspire your own undertaking if the fantasy ever becomes reality.

### *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. The Foundation seeks to increase public understanding and appreciation of these architectural links with our past and works to promote the conservation, rehabilitation and utilization of these important community assets.

Since 1977, the Foundation's Historic Structure Marker Program has recognized more than 100 homes, businesses and churches in Ypsilanti for their significant historic architecture and continuing, sensitive maintenance. The annual Ypsilanti Historic Home Tour is sponsored by the Foundation, and proceeds from the tour fund an annual scholarship program, the Marker Program and educational programs on preservation-related topics. The educational programs are held throughout the year and are open to the public.

In this, the Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation's 20th anniversary year, we are pleased to be a part of the ongoing fundraising efforts for the restoration of the General Demetrius Ypsilanti Sculpture. A portion of the proceeds from the 1994 tour will be donated by the Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation to the sculpture restoration fund.

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, Jennifer Goulet, Kim Koch, Diane LaRue, Mary Ann McDonald, 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 and art production of this year's Home Tour poster, postcard and advertisement.

To **Print & Copy Center**, 1775 Washtenaw, Ypsilanti — 485-4550, for the printing 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 our **volunteer ticket sellers** and **guides**.

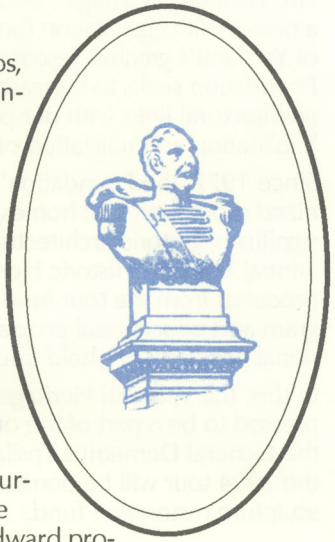
Brochure Design and Art Production by **Carolyn McKeever** — 483-4256  
**Diane Brown** — (517) 592-8708

Brochure and Commemorative Photos by **Denis Schmiedeke** — 483-7622  
Brochure Printing by **McNaughton & Gunn, Inc.** — 429-5411

### *The General Demetrius Ypsilanti Sculpture*

was created by Greek sculptor Christopher Nastos, the artist responsible for the Monument to the Unknown Soldier in Greece. The sculpture consists of a white Vermont marble bust, pedestal and base, and stands approximately 13 feet high. It was given to the City of Ypsilanti by the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA) on August 29, 1928.

The sculpture, located in front of the Ypsilanti Water Tower, depicts General Demetrius Ypsilanti (1793-1832), a leader in the Greek War of Independence. The newly independent United States, viewing Greece as the ancestor of its own democratic traditions, identified with the Greek struggle and General Ypsilanti's heroic exploits during the war brought him to the attention of Judge Augustus B. Woodward. As a result, Judge Woodward proposed that the new village, founded in 1823 on the banks of the Huron River, be named Ypsilanti, in honor of the Greek hero.



Time and the elements have taken their toll on the 66-year-old sculpture and plans are now underway to restore this community landmark. Through the combined efforts of the City of Ypsilanti, AHEPA, the Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation and others, funds are being raised for this restoration. The noted conservation firm of CASO-IMPEX has been engaged to carry out the restoration. Work is slated to begin in early 1995, with completion planned to coincide with the 1995 State AHEPA Convention, to be held in June.

CASO-IMPEX, located in Southfield, Michigan, has over 15 years of experience in the conservation of artistic stone objects, both in the United States and Europe. Locally, the firm has restored the James Scott Fountain on Belle Isle, the Penelope Sculpture at the Detroit Institute of Arts, several stone artworks at the Cranbrook House and Garden in Bloomfield Hills, as well as many others. Known for its use of the latest, proven techniques of art conservation, CASO-IMPEX is widely respected by art historians, curators and other specialists for its superior restorations of artistic and historic stone objects.

To learn more about how you can become involved in the General Demetrius Ypsilanti Sculpture Restoration Project, call the City of Ypsilanti's Community and Economic Development Department at (313) 483-9646.

The Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation and the Home Tour Committee would like to thank our sponsors and patrons whose generosity and support make possible the production of this brochure.



3150 Packard Road  
at Golfside  
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197  
(313) 434-3500

3143 Oak Valley Drive  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103  
(313) 930-6150



P.O. Box 30036  
510 Farnum Building  
Lansing, Michigan 48909-7536

### SENATOR LANA POLLACK

Lansing  
(517) 373-2406  
FAX: (517) 373-5679

Ann Arbor  
(313) 668-6066  
TDD 1-800-649-3777

**Materials Unlimited.**  
Two West Michigan Ave., Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197  
Ph. (313) 483-6980 Fax (313) 482-3636

*New and Antique Architecturals  
and Antique Furniture*

### Sponsors

**BACK IN A MINUTE**  
**ANTIQUES**

ANTIQUES BOUGHT & SOLD  
— One Piece or Entire Estate —

Steven A. Gross  
313-480-1890

COMPLETE AUCTION  
& ESTATE SERVICES

929 Pleasant Drive  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

**Patrons** *Councilmember Pamela Cuthbert  
Councilmember Janet Davis and David Davis  
Mayor Michael Homel and Nina Homel  
Councilmember Kevin Hurlahe and Michelle Hurlahe  
Councilmember Barry LaRue  
Professor Terrence J. McDonald and Mary Ann McDonald*

## Remington - Walker Design Associates

Antiques - Custom Florals - Accessories

Offering Seminars:

- window treatments
- architectural accents
- lighting
- color
- Christmas decorating
- table presentations

(313) 485-2164

## Sponsors



## The TRAVEL STORE, INC.

...make your dreams come true

**HOURS:**  
Monday-Friday:  
9 am - 7 pm

Saturday:  
10 am - 4 pm

Wal-Mart Center ~ Roundtree Place  
2411 Ellsworth Road  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197-4853

(313) 434-0480 1-800-628-5027  
FAX (313) 434-1157

• Corporate • Leisure • Groups

## McLAIN & WINTERS

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

WM. DOUGLAS WINTERS  
(313) 481-1120

61 N. HURON  
YPSILANTI, MICHIGAN 48197

residential & commercial - design & upholstery



Ann  
Arbor  
craftsmen-interiors

(313) 484 - 0535

LES HEDDLE    PAM HEDDLE    551 BERKLEY  
President    Design Consultant    YPSILANTI, MI 48197

(313) 485-7600 BUSINESS  
(313) 485-7630 FAX  
(313) 308-9121 PAGER

**COLDWELL  
BANKER**

**DIANE BROWN LA RUE**  
REALTOR®

**COLDWELL BANKER  
SCHWEITZER REAL ESTATE**  
RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE  
300 N. HURON  
YPSILANTI, MI 48197

An Independently Owned and Operated Member of Coldwell Banker Residential Affiliates, Inc



EMU Continuing Education  
**Depot Town Center**  
32 E. Cross St.

Full Schedule of Programs  
Beginning Fall 1994  
Call Now for a Catalogue  
487-0407 or 487-6815



**KIRK A. PROFIT**  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
54TH DISTRICT

ROOSEVELT BUILDING  
ROOM 374  
P.O. BOX 30014  
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48908-7514  
(517) 373-1771



## Sponsors

### Patrons

*Kevin McCormick  
Lis Knibbe, Architect  
An Anonymous Donor*



*The area's largest  
supplier of:*

- wall coverings
- carpet
- window treatments

10 E. Cross  
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198  
(In Historic Depot Town) (313) 482-6338

## COMPLETE HOME SERVICES

**Renovation Restoration Remodeling**

COMMERCIAL - RESIDENTIAL

**Steven V. Kantola**

MI License #2101089192

**313/483-5238**



Telephone: (313) 973-1034

**JEAN C. SCHOLL, M.D.**  
**CHERYL A. HUCKINS, M.D.**  
**CHERYL C. FARMER, M.D.**

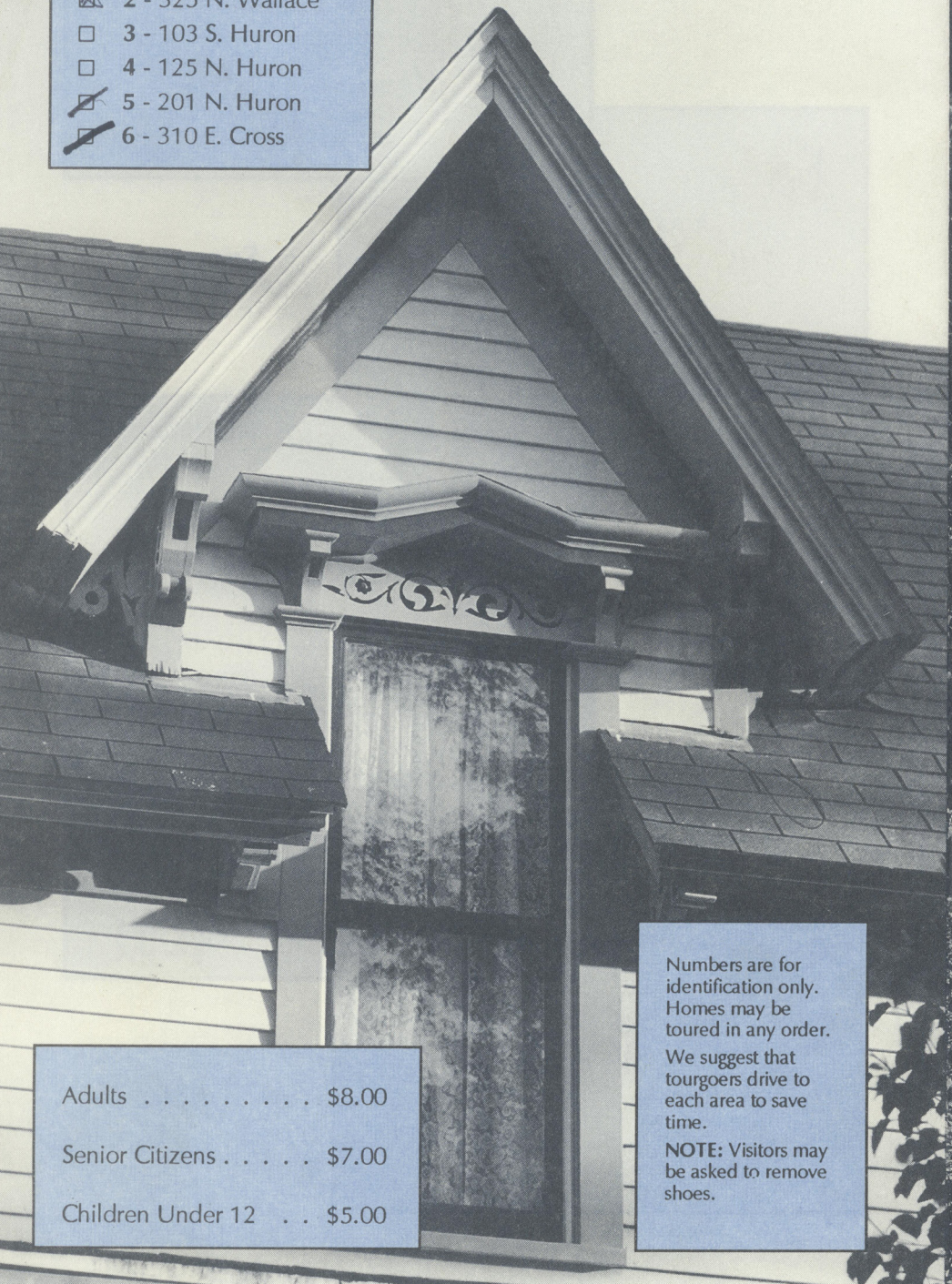
*Internal Medicine*

1950 Manchester  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104

1994

## TICKET

- 1 - 311 N. Wallace
- 2 - 325 N. Wallace
- 3 - 103 S. Huron
- 4 - 125 N. Huron
- 5 - 201 N. Huron
- 6 - 310 E. Cross



Adults . . . . . \$8.00  
Senior Citizens . . . . . \$7.00  
Children Under 12 . . . \$5.00

Numbers are for identification only. Homes may be toured in any order. We suggest that tourgoers drive to each area to save time.

**NOTE:** Visitors may be asked to remove shoes.