

**18th Annual
Historic Home Tour**

**Sunday
August 20, 1995**

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



1

122 Linden Court Roger Maki, Lorelei Crawford, and Edward Schramm

Even though this house is now 65 years old, its specific style can't be found in architectural style books. "Post Victorian" is the umbrella term for its style and the styles of several of the twelve houses you see on Linden Court. The term reflects a changing attitude that affected the look of homes built in America at this time. Although it was an era of pattern-book designs, mail-order houses, and speculative building, the materials used in these houses were of good quality. Walls were plaster, doors were solid wood and the open, sunny, comfortable interiors were designed for family use.

Current owners Roger Maki, Lorelei Crawford, and Edward Schramm have worked countless hours to restore their home to its early beauty, and have added their own touches by converting the attic into living space and adding a second floor walk-out deck over the garage. Their goal has been to stay in keeping with the original architectural feeling of the house, to use quality materials, and to keep the house open, sunny, and comfortable.

Building on Linden Court, (originally called Linden Place), began in 1930 and by 1931 all twelve houses were completed. 122 Linden Court was originally the home of the Thaddeus McDaris family, but its best known residents were the Durant family, owners of a local floral business, who lived in the house for 32 years. So it is fitting that five years ago Roger and Lorelei began the extensive gardens, which now offer an ever-changing look to the neighborhood throughout the year.



2

315 N. Grove Terry and Mary Ann McDonald

This Folk Victorian Wing and Gable Style house was built in the early 1890's. A simplified version of the more elaborate Queen Anne Style, its vertical lines, peaked roofs, and charming front porch suggest a typical late Victorian working man's home. By the 1930's, the families of a well-digger, a tin-smith, a laborer, a draftsman, and a freight agent had occupied the home.

Terry and Mary Ann McDonald purchased the house in 1988 and launched an extensive renovation campaign on the interior. The work included the installation of new plumbing, new lighting fixtures, replastering, removing wallpaper, and refinishing wood floors. The McDonalds unified and lightened the house, giving a more expansive feeling to the interior. Rooms previously covered with a "mixed but not matched" array of wallpapers are now beautifully highlighted with faux paint and wallpaper finishes. Mary Ann's needlework, antique button displays, and grandmother's hats can be seen on tour and the upstairs guest room features the furniture from her childhood bedroom.

The exterior of the house is impressively restored as well, and parts of the original porch have been rebuilt. A custom-milled burgundy-painted picket fence matches the window shutters and wicker porch furniture. From the street, the house and yard make a pleasing, old-fashioned impression. Ferns rise slightly above the floor of the porch, enveloping it in summer, and the lovely side yard includes a perennial garden.

The McDonalds' commitment to their east-side Ypsilanti neighborhood is exemplified by the extraordinary interior/exterior world they have fashioned from this well-constructed, comfortably-lived-in 19th Century home.



3

309 E. Cross Jonnie Bryant and Mark Namatevs Gary Clark and Glen Sard

The recent rescue of 309 E. Cross, by current owners Jonnie Bryant and Mark Namatevs, was celebrated by many in Ypsilanti because it represents another victory in the battle to reclaim the historic East Cross neighborhood. In fact, Jonnie and Mark were awarded an Historic Structure Marker for this restoration, by the Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation, in May of this year.

The land on which this house stands was purchased in 1839 by John Farrier, a carpenter born in New York. The simple Wing and Gable Style house dates c.1860, although the west wing of the present structure, which is the original homestead, may date from as early as the mid 1840's. John Farrier's wife, Delilah, and their children remained in the house until the mid 1890's, when Miss Ella Stone, a local dressmaker, bought the house and added the northern wing.

Little more than a year ago this house was considered uninhabitable and when Jonnie and Mark purchased it they began an extensive renovation effort. Many areas of the house were gutted, but care was taken to salvage as much historic detail as possible, including the tulip wood floor in the front parlor and the original front doors, which had been relegated to the attic floor. As you approach this deceptively unassuming home, notice the vibrant and rich color scheme that graces not only the house but the out-buildings as well.

Current tenants Gary Clark and Glen Sard have made this house a home with their eclectic and comfortable style of decorating and furnishings. Inside are family heirlooms that date back to the last century, as well as treasures from the R.E. Olds mansion in Lansing.

Inside and out, this home is an inspiration to all who are committed to preserving the unique historic architecture of our city.



4

322 Maple

Jim Soraruf and Marjean Rose Soraruf

Not only has this house had several changes of owners over its long history, it has also had a change of address! Prior to c. 1890, when the street name changed and the City adopted a uniform address numbering system, 322 Maple Street was known as 28 Mill Street.

This Wing and Gable Greek Revival Style house, located on lot #454 of the Norris Addition to the Village (now City) of Ypsilanti, was built c. 1850, for a local shoemaker. It was later the home of Don Lewis Davis, Ypsilanti mayor from 1898 to 1899, who lived here from 1872 until about 1900. It sports several of the features of the Greek Revival Style, including the typical six over six windows and the front entry door with transom and wide casing. The chamfered columns and scroll sawn brackets on the side porch are of Italianate influence and were probably added in the 1860's. The exterior chimney, of hard fired brick, was added after World War I.

Current owners Jim and Marjean Soraruf have spent the past four years completing extensive renovations to their home, doing most of the work themselves. Asbestos siding has been removed and the original wood siding has been restored. They also built a large addition at the rear of the house, which includes a kitchen and family room. Inside are several interesting antiques and architectural pieces, including an old washing machine from the 1860's, and a window and door in the new family room that date from 1905.



5

410 Oak Warren Lewis

You don't just tour Warren Lewis' tiny jewel of a home — you "experience" it! An interior designer, Warren has created a spectacular, yet intimate, environment where house and garden have become one. A 19th century schoolhouse, moved to Oak Street, this house was originally a very small board and batten building. Two later additions now bring it to a grand total of 800 square feet!

But what an imaginative 800 square feet it is! Inside rich, moody colors — midnight blue, cranberry, and deep green — combine with an eclectic grouping of Art Deco, Contemporary, and Victorian furnishings to provide a comforting ambiance. A spiral staircase runs from the basement all the way to the second floor sleeping loft. The stained glass window in the dining room, with its Art Deco and Art Nouveau influences, dates from c. 1915 and comes from a house in Toledo. Also in the dining room are two large hanging Art Deco lighting fixtures, which date from 1925. For drama, Warren has placed an Art Deco ceiling border in the dining room, and for fun he has the Rockettes high-kicking their way around a ceiling border in the living room, complete with tiny footlights!

This owner-designer unites the indoors and outdoors with color, repeating the deep red of the front of the house on the inside back wall before the entry to the rear garden. A narrow, deep lot, (34 by 234 feet), it's the perfect backdrop for a garden design which features contrasting light and darkness and illustrates Warren's love of the vertical line.



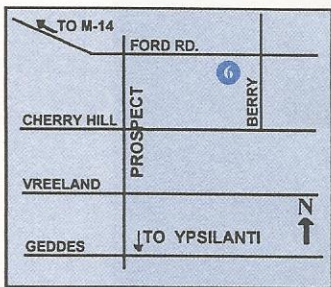
6

**3401 Berry Road, Superior Township
Springhill Farm
Brad Perkins**

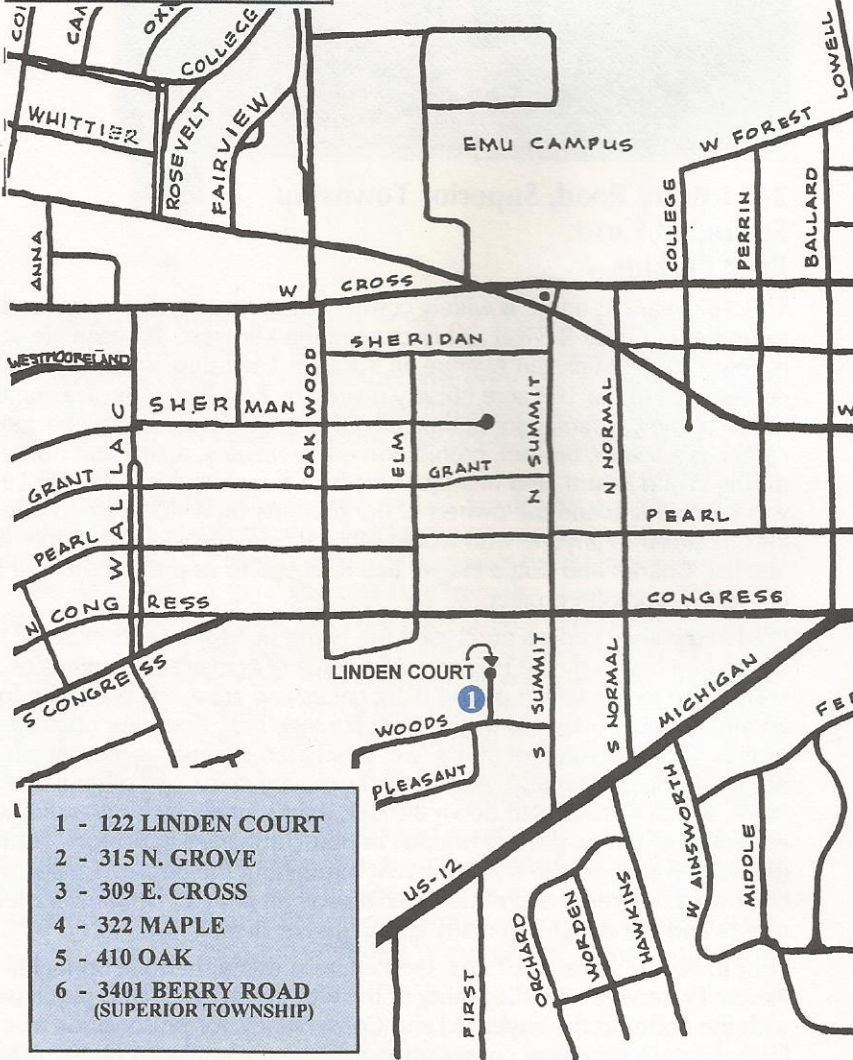
This 162 year old house is widely considered to be one of the outstanding examples of Greek Revival architecture in the Midwest. It began life at what is now 1701 E. Michigan Avenue, in Ypsilanti Township, where it was the centerpiece of the 160 acre nursery owned by Ezra Lay. After leaving the hands of the Lay family some time after 1874, the house had a checkered career as a tavern, brothel, prohibition era speakeasy, apartment house during World War II, and headquarters for a trenching business. By 1966 it was condemned and the owners of the property on which it stood offered it for one dollar to anyone who would move it from the site and restore it. The late Charles and Kottie Hagler had it moved to its present site and began the long restoration project.

Brad and Nancy Perkins purchased the house in 1987 and completed the restoration begun by the Haglers. As a result of Nancy's meticulous research, the rooms reflect period paint colors and are a rich backdrop for the art and antiques acquired during their life together. Brad describes these objects as "a combination of things (we) purchased cheaply as newlyweds when no one wanted antiques." Also in the house are china and other oriental items, which were passed down through Brad's family by his grandfather, an employee of one of the first oriental import companies in Boston. Nancy's expertise with a needle is also evident throughout the house. Cushions, chair seats, a screen, and other items display an array of needlework techniques and the designs, in many cases, are her own.

Prior to Nancy's death in 1993, the Perkinses established the Springhill Nature Preserve by deeding thirty of the fifty-five acres of land purchased with the house to the Superior Land Conservancy, for preservation as a wild-life habitat. A perpetual conservation easement was placed on the property to assure that it will be retained forever in its natural state.

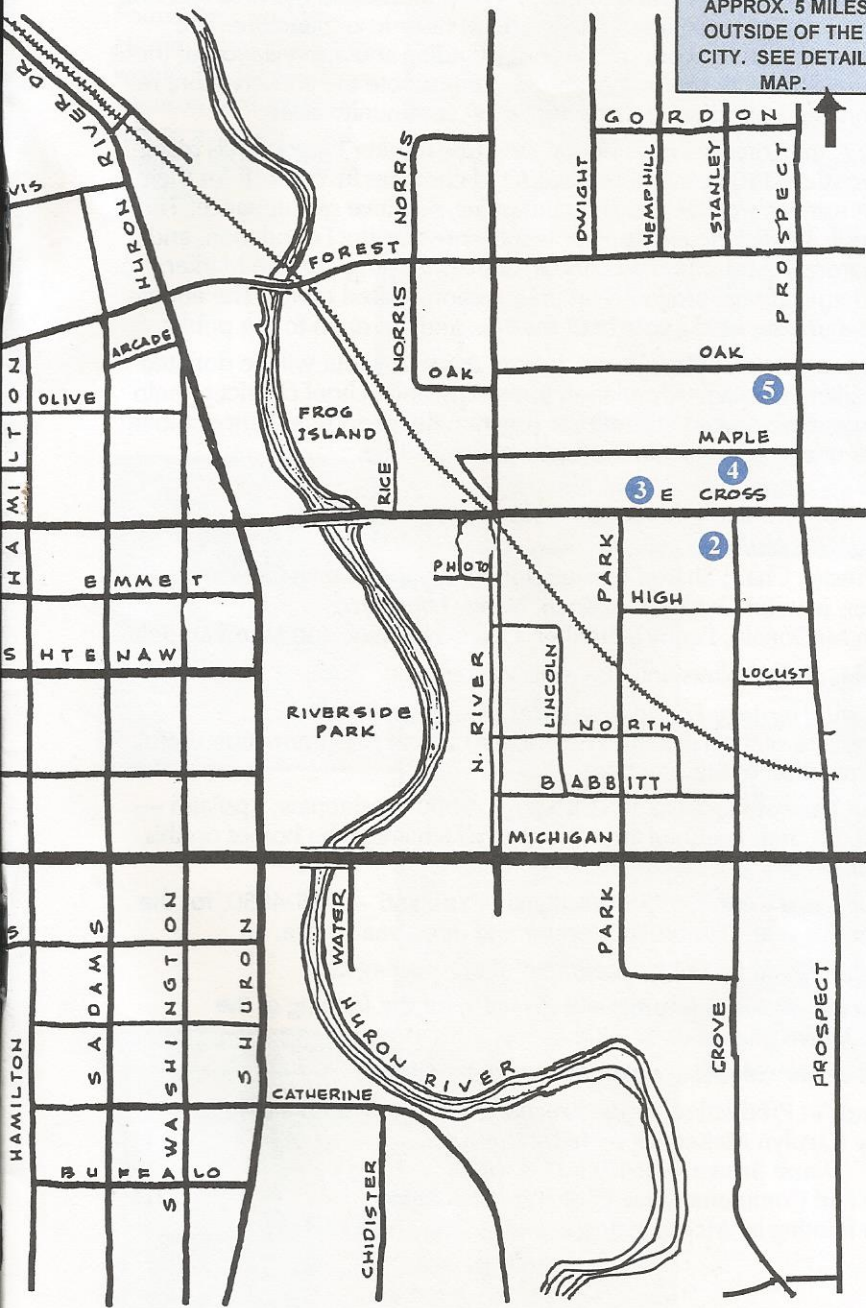


North



- 1 - 122 LINDEN COURT
- 2 - 315 N. GROVE
- 3 - 309 E. CROSS
- 4 - 322 MAPLE
- 5 - 410 OAK
- 6 - 3401 BERRY ROAD
(SUPERIOR TOWNSHIP)

TO #6
APPROX. 5 MILES
OUTSIDE OF THE
CITY. SEE DETAIL
MAP.



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 110 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 addition, a portion of the proceeds from this year's tour will be donated by the Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation to the Ypsilanti School District to help in the development of an educational program designed to enhance student awareness of and appreciation for historic architecture.

Home Tour Committee:

Peg Du Fresne, Chair; Sharon Beckett, Jonnie Bryant, Lorelei Crawford, Julie Fisher, Jennifer Goulet, Kim Koch, Nancy Loppnow, 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 Durant Florists and Gift Shops**, 2900 Washtenaw, Ypsilanti — 434-0020, for their beautiful arrangements which grace the homes on this year's tour.

To **Print & Copy Center**, 1775 Washtenaw, Ypsilanti — 485-4550, for the printing of this year's Home Tour poster and direct mail piece.

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**.

Design and Art Production for the brochure, poster, direct mail piece, and ad by **Carolyn McKeever** — 483-4256

Diane Brown — (517) 592-8708

Brochure and Commemorative Photos by **Rick Katon**

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

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



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- 3 - 309 E. Cross
- 4 - 322 Maple
- 5 - 410 Oak
- 6 - 3401 Berry Road

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