



19th Annual
Historic Home Tour

Sunday
August 18, 1996

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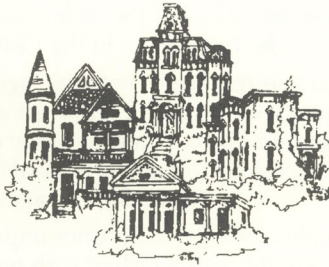
Welcome

to our 19th Annual Home Tour. Once again, Ypsilanti area residents 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.

This year we feature four homes from Ypsilanti's West Side: one from the Normal Park neighborhood and three from the College Heights neighborhood. Although a few homes were built in Normal Park in the 19th century, the neighborhood really began to develop around the turn of the century and during the period preceding World War I. Building in the College Heights neighborhood began in the mid-1920's. Not surprisingly, with their proximity to Michigan State Normal College (now Eastern Michigan University) both neighborhoods became home to a number of faculty members, as well as professionals and businessmen.

Our fifth home is a landmark building located in the heart of Ypsilanti's downtown historic district. A stately, Queen Anne Style duplex built in 1894, it has literally risen from the ashes of a recent, devastating fire to live again, like the legendary bird from which it gets its name: Phoenix Place Apartments.

Together, these homes are representative of the many beautiful and significant structures that make up Ypsilanti's wealth of historic architecture. Enjoy the tour!



Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation

Please Note:

- Although the structures are numbered for your convenience in the brochure, you are free to visit them in any order you wish.
- We suggest that tourgoers drive to each area to save time.
- Visitors may be asked to remove shoes.
- As a courtesy to the homeowners, PLEASE: no food or drink, smoking, pets, unsupervised children, strollers, or photography inside the homes.
- The ticket holder expressly assumes all responsibility for any personal injury or property damage occurring while on tour.



709 Cambridge David and Linda Repasky

An example of the English Tudor Revival Style, 709 Cambridge has the classic feature of cedar and stucco combined with brick and field stone. The scalloped siding at the peaks, arched entrance, and "Roman swoop" extension of the roofline are typical of this style. Built in 1925, it was one of the first homes in the College Heights subdivision.

The exterior stucco was reapplied five years ago when the porch on the north side was expanded to create a family room on the first floor and a study on the upstairs level. David Repasky designed this addition to harmonize with the existing architecture; local craftsmen completed the work, and the attention to detail is evident.

The Repaskys have made a number of interior improvements, including the addition of a first floor 3/4 bath, finished with natural redwood walls and ceiling, in space that was originally a butler's pantry. They remodeled the kitchen in 1986, adding six feet to the south side of the house. A deck was also added to extend the kitchen space outdoors and includes a built-in year-round spa.

Among the many notable features in the interior of this home are the molded plaster fireplace in the living room; the antique dining table that expands to twelve feet, antique buffet cabinet, and ice box in the dining room; David's childhood bedroom set; and a large country closet and cedar linen closet in the hall.

Outside, the shady yard offers ample space for the Repasky's two teenage sons to practice their sports, as well as a cool respite in its peaceful surroundings.



1207 Roosevelt Jeff and Jennifer Goulet

This charming Colonial Revival Style home, owned by Jeff and Jennifer Goulet, is located just west of the campus of Eastern Michigan University. Constructed in 1939, it was designed by Ward Swartz, one of the era's well-known architects, for Lawrence Dunning. As was typical of the residents in this area, Dunning was a faculty member at the university, then known as Michigan State Normal College.

Traditionally, Colonial Revival Style homes were built to be symmetrical in design, and were constructed with a functional approach aimed at providing the homeowner with the necessities. But within this simple design, a home rich in color and style can be found. Jennifer's needlework skills can be seen throughout the house and her personal touch is evident in every room in cross stitch designs, handmade quilts, and drapery treatments. Avid collectors, the Goulet's home is filled with an eclectic mixture of dolls, textiles, pottery, and glassware, as well as treasured family heirlooms.

Jeff and Jennifer purchased this house in 1993 and consider their home to be a "work in progress." They recently restored the hardwood floors upstairs to their natural beauty and luster, redid the upstairs bath and the half-bath on the first floor, and built the brick patio on the south side of the house. Upcoming projects include the removal of the aluminum siding on the exterior, which was installed in the 1970's, to once again reveal the original cedar siding.



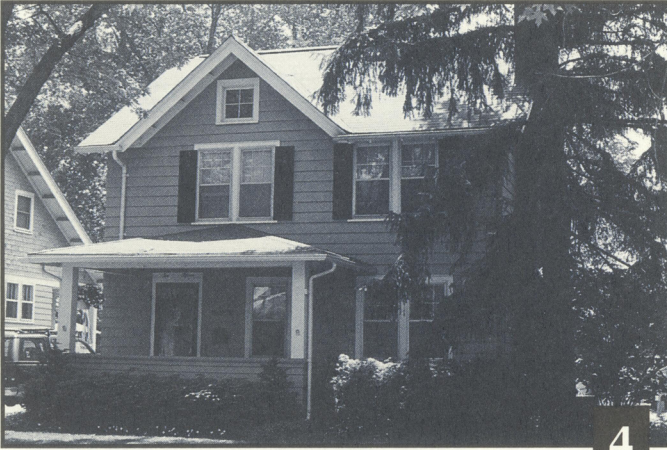
507 Fairview Skip and Kyle Bunton

Over the years, previous owners of this Period Revival English Cotswold Cottage often returned to gaze lovingly at it. And who can blame them? With its unusual rolled roof, eyebrow windows, and picturesque siting, 507 presents a charming, almost storybook-like appearance to the street.

Built in 1926, the house has walls that are three bricks thick with stucco covering, indicative of the sturdy construction of the 1920's. The casement windows, with tinted concrete sills, are typical of the Cotswold Cottage style. Current owners Skip and Kyle Bunton, who bought the house in 1993, have worked to recreate a period feeling in the interior rooms, while adding their own touches. The hardwood floors on the first floor have been refinished.

The dining room now features family heirlooms, including a black walnut cabinet and mirror, window treatments designed by Kyle, and walls that have been painted using an unusual technique called "smooshing." The living room features a chair, bought at Treasure Mart for \$35.00, that originally came from the lobby of the Michigan Theatre. Period lighting fixtures are found in the den, lower hall, and upper hall, and most are original to the house.

Outside, Skip and Kyle have created a lovely cottage garden, with wooly thyme, lavender, roses, and hostas. Their most recent building project is the blue slate and sandstone patio on the northwest corner of the house. A lucky find, Skip and Kyle uncovered the large slate fragments (which had once formed a walkway), while removing overgrown shrubbery and debris from the yard.



1015 W. Cross Jim and Helen Vick

The wide eaves, ample porch, and six-over-one windows of 1015 W. Cross are characteristics of a type of house that architectural style books refer to as "Comfortable Houses." Built during the period between World War I and the onset of the Great Depression, these houses, with their relatively small size and overall simplicity, were a marked departure from the elaborate exteriors of the late Victorian period.

Jim and Helen Vick are the fourth owners of this home, which was built in 1926. William Carr, who may have been the builder of this house, occupied it from 1926 until 1931. It was then purchased by the Floyd A. Clark family, who lived here from 1931 until 1957. Terry Clark purchased the home from his parents in 1958 and he and his family lived here until 1975, when the Vicks became owners.

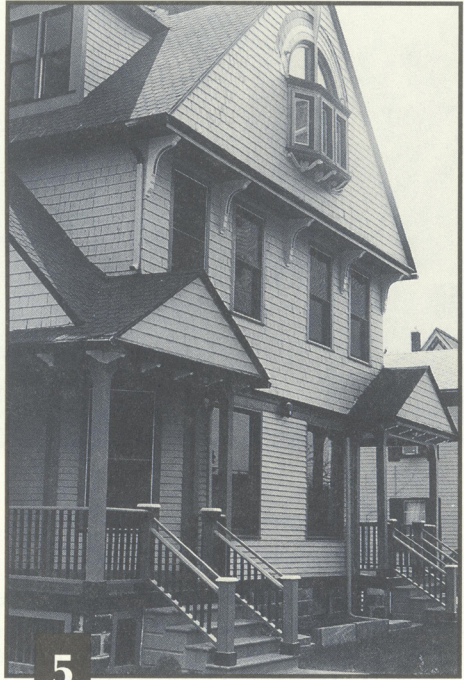
Two years ago, the Vicks added a second floor shed dormer on the back of the house. They have also enhanced this home by converting a closet-sized bedroom on the second floor into a stunning and contemporary master bath, complete with twin skylights and beautifully detailed appointments. Their creativity is seen further in the built-in cupboards and bookshelves found in the house and in the highly imaginative conversion of unused attic space into a "bachelor" suite for their son.

As you exit this warm, comfortable, and eclectic home, notice the treehouse in the backyard, built for the Vicks' three children, and the bridge connecting the treehouse to another tree.

184-190 N. Washington
Phoenix Place Apartments
Shoeb Sharieff/190
Washington Associates

The name Phoenix Place is certainly appropriate for this landmark building. Like the legendary bird, it has lived a long life and literally rose from the ashes of a recent fire to live again.

Maps from as early as 1859 show a building (possibly a double house) on this corner lot in the heart of Ypsilanti's downtown historic district. The stately, Queen Anne Style duplex that now occupies the



site was built in 1894, and up until 1958, when the street numbering system changed, its address was 126-128 N. Washington.

Among its earliest residents were a rector of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, a mathematics professor from the Normal College, a physician, a grocer, and various local businessmen. By 1942, residents began to rent out furnished rooms and by 1954 the property was listed in the city directory as a rooming house called The Washington House Hotel. Over the succeeding years, the house was further subdivided and began its decline; by the 1980's it contained as many as 16 units.

Heavily damaged by fire in 1990, the house was purchased in 1993 by Shoeb Sharieff/190 Washington Associates and underwent a total rehabilitation which created eight imaginatively designed apartments within its historic framework. The interior plan for the project is the work of local architect Denis Schmiedeke.

The rehabilitation project was partially funded by the Michigan State Housing Development Authority, and was administered by the City of Ypsilanti. Rents for Phoenix Place Apartments are strictly controlled, and this project is an example of a successful public-private partnership working in cooperation to provide affordable housing, while furthering historic preservation goals in the community.

Scheduled to be on tour are one 1-bedroom, one 2-bedroom and one 3-bedroom unit.



riverside
arts
center

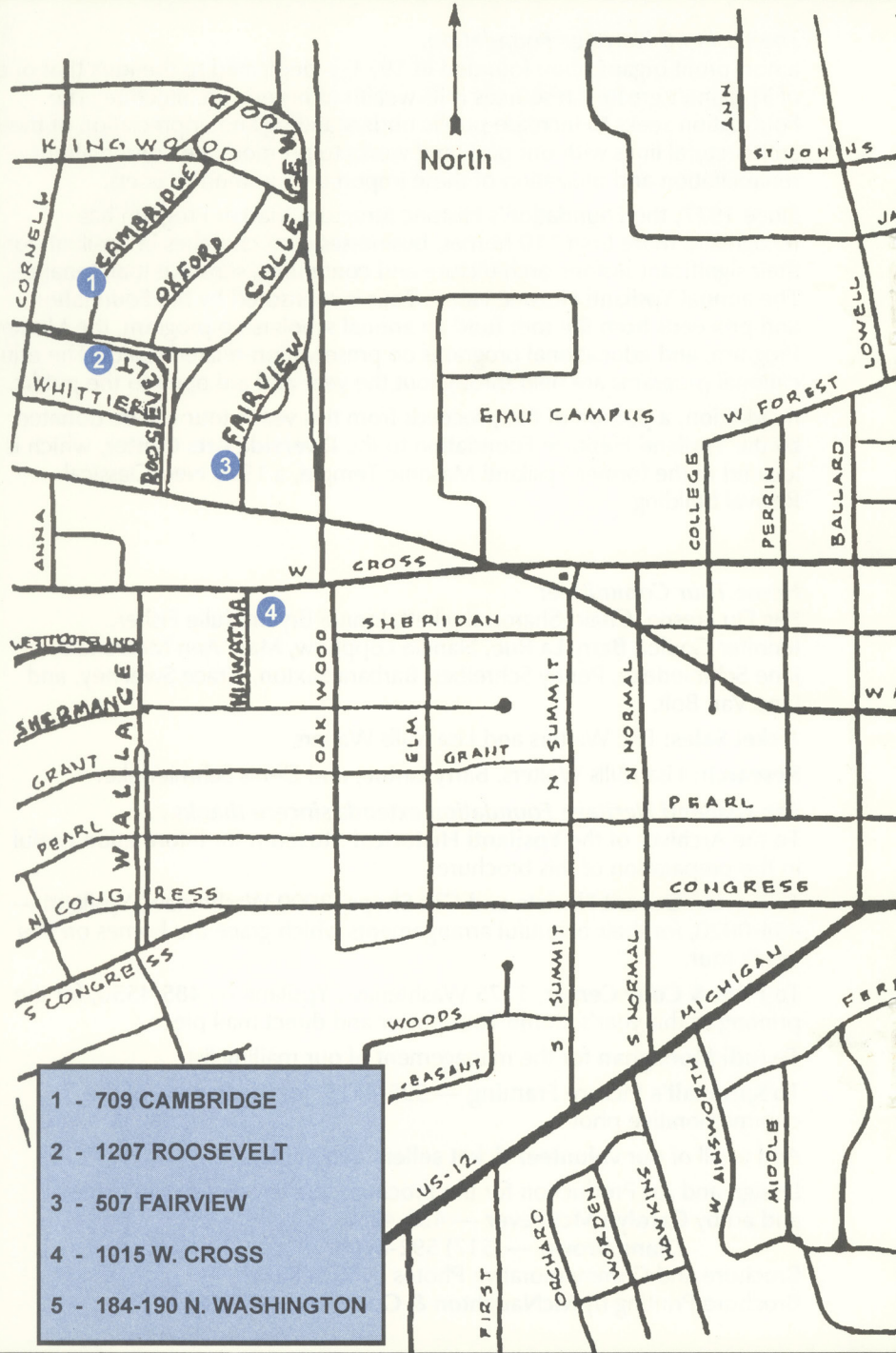
Washtenaw County's newest arts venue, the **Riverside Arts Center** is located in the former Ypsilanti Masonic Temple building. A 1909 Neo-Classical Revival building, it is a contributing structure in Ypsilanti's nationally registered Historic District. It served as a Masonic Temple until 1987 when it became warehouse space and, with the passing years, was in danger of falling into a state of decay.

In an effort to preserve and protect the building, and in response to community interest in creating an entertainment destination in the downtown area, the Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority (DDA) initiated the Riverside Arts Center Development Project in 1993 and purchased the Masonic Temple in June of 1994. In September of 1994, the Riverside Arts Center Foundation, a non-profit corporation, was formed to operate the Center. In 1996, the Foundation began its Capital Campaign to raise funds to improve the facility in order to attract high quality cultural activities.

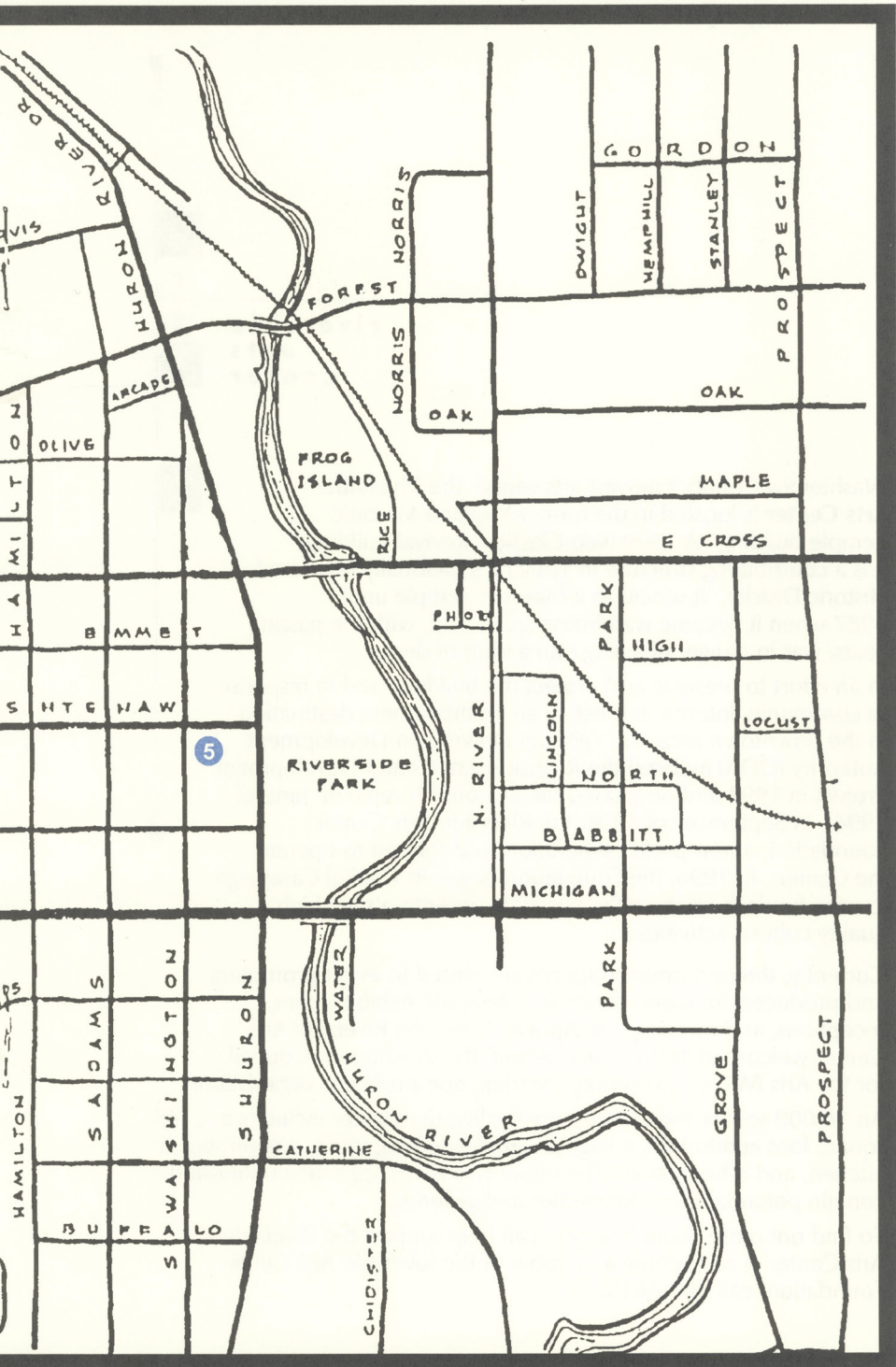
Currently, the performance spaces are rented to event promoters and producers for plays, concerts, rehearsals, exhibits, films, receptions, and meetings. In April of 1996, the Riverside Arts Center welcomed its first office tenant, the Washtenaw Council for the Arts (WCA), the county's leading non-profit arts organization.

An 18,000 square foot, three story facility, the Center includes a 2,745 square foot auditorium, a large assembly/meeting room, a commercial kitchen, and office space. The upper two floors, currently unfinished, contain potential space for studios and galleries.

To find out more about how you can help support the Riverside Arts Center or to become a member of the Riverside Arts Center Foundation, call 480-ARTS.



- 1 - 709 CAMBRIDGE
- 2 - 1207 ROOSEVELT
- 3 - 507 FAIRVIEW
- 4 - 1015 W. CROSS
- 5 - 184-190 N. WASHINGTON



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 **Riverside Arts Center**, which is located in the former Ypsilanti Masonic Temple, a 1909 Neo-Classical Revival building.

Home Tour Committee:

Peg Du Fresne, Chair; Sharon Beckett, Jonnie Bryant, Julie Fisher, Jennifer Goulet, Barry La Rue, Nancie Loppnow, Mary Ann McDonald, Jane Schmiedeke, Penny Schreiber, Barbara Saxton, Grace Sweeney, and Jane Van Bolt.

Ticket Sales: Eric Walters and Lisa Mills Walters

Research: Lisa Mills Walters, Barry LaRue, and Denis Schmiedeke.

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 corporate underwriters, sponsors, and patrons whose generosity and support make this tour possible.

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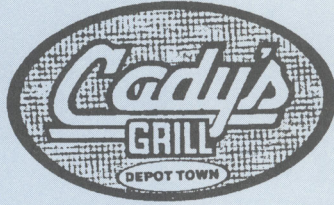
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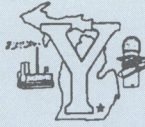
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1996

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- 4 - 1015 W. Cross
- 5 - 184-190 N. Washington

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