



January 1980
November 1979

NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING: **THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 8:00 p.m.**

PLEASE NOTE: This is a change from our previously scheduled date!

Place: First Presbyterian Church of Ypsilanti
Corner of Emmet and Washington Streets

PROGRAM: Third in the Series: OLD HOUSE CLINIC

"PAINTS AND VARNISHES"

SPEAKER: Tony Keith, our local expert from Anderson's Paint Co., Ann Arbor. He will discuss in detail the subject of surface preparation, proper types of finish, methods of application, and all other relevant data on this delicate and seemingly complicated subject.

COME YOURSELF, OF COURSE, BUT ALSO CONSIDER BRINGING AT LEAST ONE NEW PROSPECTIVE MEMBER!!! Refreshments will again be served.

REAL NEWS ABOUT THE Downtown Facade Study Plan:

Public Meeting: Members of the staff of Preservation Urban Design and Ypsilanti's city representatives will meeting with all interested persons . . .

March 6 at 8:00 p.m. at McKinney Union to review the plan and answer any questions the public might have concerning this exciting new plan for Downtown Ypsilanti. This will, in fact, be the formal start of the implementation of the plan.

GREAT NEWS!!!!!!

YPSILANTI HAS RECEIVED ANOTHER GRANT from the state of Michigan funding the Ypsilanti Heritage Festival for a second year. A check of around \$14,000 was presented to Rich Baird, Executive Director of the Ypsilanti Area Tourist and Convention Bureau by Jack Wilson, Director of Tourism, Department of Commerce, Lansing. Rep. Gary Owen, who played a great part in securing the grant, was also present.

So!!

Plans are already under way for the Second Annual Ypsilanti Heritage Festival. Nat Edmunds is again chairperson, and Jane Bird is on the executive board.

Therefore . . .

The Heritage Foundation will again be invited to sponsor a House Tour. What would a heritage festival be without at least a few of our favorite houses being made open to the public? Any suggestions? Any volunteers?? We hope we will be able to add to the list of wonderful people who worked so hard last year!

Would you believe it????

The Ypsilanti Historic District Commission is now entering its **THIRD** year of service to the community. Nat Edmunds, who speaks with authority, calls it the most dedicated and hard working commission the city has. She also praises its excellent attendance record. Present members are Jane Bird, Nat Edmunds, Jack Harris, A. P. Marshall, Don Randazzo, Shelley Rankin, and John VanBolt. Ask any one of these people to point out to you some of the changes that they have seen take place in Ypsilanti's Historic District under their guiding eye and stamp of approval.

Have you seen what's been happening in Depot Town?

. . . the delightful new (old) storefront sign for Huron Valley Office Supply in its new location at 19 E. Cross St.???

. . . the spectacular transformation of the facade of the Alibi Bar and the Weber building???

. . . and now the prospect of a real live CABOOSE being corralled and brought to Depot Town for use as DTA and Farmers' Market offices and other creative uses???

Onward Tom Dodd, Frank Leimbach and others who are making the old dream a very definite reality!!!

Heritage Foundation News:

At the November meeting, four Board members whose terms were expiring were reelected: Oscar Haab, Jane VanBolt, Don Randazzo, Bruce Rankin. Two new Board members were elected: David Blinn and Richard Wood, replacing Joyce Kelly and Janice Mackin.

New PROGRAM chairman - Don Randazzo

New Members: Mrs. Ray Fletcher and Vega Wimmer: welcome!

We hope we see you all at the THURSDAY night meeting!!!



Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation

~~November 1978~~

MARCH 1980

NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 8:00 p.m.

PLACE: First Presbyterian Church of Ypsilanti
(Corner of Emmet and Washington Streets)

PROGRAM: Third in the Series: OLD HOUSE CLINICS
"LANDSCAPING THE OLD HOUSE"

SPEAKER: Dr. Roger H. VanBolt, former Director of the Sloane
Museum in Flint

Dr. VanBolt, father of John VanBolt, has had a life-long interest in horticulture and history and comes to talk with us with all the enthusiasm of one who has found new inspiration - especially now that he is retired - in his lifelong avocation, gardening. He has recently done research on the subject at the Bentley Library at the University of Michigan; he has discovered an 1880s list of plants and trees indigenous to Washtenaw County. But his talk will focus primarily on the practical aspects of the subject, especially the problem of maintenance of grounds in this age of do-it-yourself. What a perfect time of year to get some expert advice on this important subject! Call your neighbors; bring a friend! Refreshments, of course!

YPSILANTI YESTERYEAR
HERITAGE FESTIVAL

Dates: August 21, 22, 23,
24, 1980. The Kick-off
for this second annual
Festival took place Feb. 22
in the old Depot Town ball-
room at 46 E. Cross St.
There were circus acts and
an announcement that the
Franzen Brothers Circus
will enliven this year's
event!

HELP !!!

Nat Edmunds is looking for
volunteers for the Antique
Show at the Festival. Call
her at 482-5218 now.

BAD NEWS - but not surpris-
ing: the Towner House
assessment went from
\$12,000 to \$15,400. As
one of Shakespeare's
characters so wisely put
it: "Make all the money
you can".

MARIGOLD SALE ???

Did you know that the Foundation is
planning a mass marigold sale for
Saturday, May 24th - place to be
announced? It is hoped that every
member will start now to take orders
from neighbors and friends. This is
a way to help the Foundation and at
the same time make a change for the
better in the appearance of our town
in time for Festival. This cheerful,
sunny plant is the easiest to grow
and should noticeably brighten the
face of our community.

THE HOUSE TOUR COMMITTEE is already
hard at it, making plans for our next
house tour to be offered during the
Yesterday Festival in August. House
selections are being made right now.
We plan to simplify the program (six
houses only!) and to cut the price
accordingly. Improvements are in the
works to insure an even better and
more successful tour this year.

PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES AND HELP US OUT
IN THE ABOVE PROJECTS !



MAY 1980

NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, MAY 27 - 8:00 pm

PLACE: First Presbyterian Church of Ypsilanti
(Corner of Emmet and Washington Streets)

PROGRAM: Presentation of
Historic Structure
Markers

The owners of the following buildings will be awarded Historic Structure markers and will be our guests of honor!

Stripp, Roberts,
Manchester
206 N. Huron

Emmanuel Lutheran
Church
201 N. River

Mrs. Ella Panek
203 Arnet

Masonic Temple
N. Huron

Oliver House
(Alibi Bar)
39 E. Cross

AND

Fifth in the Series of OLD
HOUSE CLINICS:

"Decorating the Old House"

Speaker: Jacque Minick,
Interior Designer,
Marshall, Michigan

Some Foundation members may be familiar with Mrs. Minick's work - her home, Oak Hill, the most magnificent mansion in historic Marshall, was on one of the recent home tours there. Anyone having seen that will be delighted to have the opportunity to take advantage of Mrs. Minick's expertise in decorating the old house. This is a rare chance to get professional advice without cost!

Bring a friend!
Call your neighbors!

Refreshments, of course!



MARIGOLD SALE!!!

This spring the Foundation is experimenting with a new project, the objective of which (beyond making money!) is to help beautify our town in time for the second FESTIVAL. There will be a MARIGOLD SALE, Saturday, May 24, 7:00 am to 4:00 pm on the green at the corner of Cross and Huron Streets, beside Old Town Hall. Plants will be available at competitive prices by the tray (6 plants) or by the flat (72 plants). Let's get Ypsilanti blooming in time for Festival!

HELP WANTED !! (Three shifts: at 7, 10, and 1) - call Jane Bird

YPSILANTI YESTERYEAR HERITAGE FESTIVAL

LET'S GET READY !! - for the Ypsilanti Yesteryear Heritage Festival
August 22, 23, 24

Plans are well underway for this second annual event. Reports are that it will be bigger and better than last year's fun celebration.

HISTORIC HOUSE TOUR

The Heritage Foundation is again making a major contribution to the Festival by offering a house tour. This year the city's heritage will be well represented by six exciting buildings on display. Please note that this is not another interior decorating tour; rather, it is an historic preservation tour which offers a variety of architectural styles and adaptations of older buildings. It is a tribute to individual owners who have been willing to take the plunge, to invest their imagination, money and time, do much of the work themselves, and create a living space out of buildings which have all too often gone uncared for and unappreciated. Variety and individuality are the keynote features of this tour. The Foundation is proud to announce that the following buildings will be open during the Festival:

103 N. Adams	-	The Venner House
106 N. Adams	-	The Harris House
52½ E. Cross	-	The Shankwiler Residence & Studio
301 N. Grove	-	The Mattimoe House
116 S. Adams	-	The Lindsay House
107 W. Michigan	-	The Campbell Apartment

DATE: Sunday, August 24 ADMISSION: Adults \$3.00
TIME: Noon to 5:00 pm Children 12 and under \$1.50
Senior Citizens \$2.00

Guides are being sought now. Volunteers, call Jane Bird, 482-8989.

WOODRUFF'S GROVE is open !!

The elegant new cocktail lounge and restaurant in the Centennial Center at the corner of Washington and Pearl Streets is now serving! You might try a "Cyclone of 1893" sandwich, a "Raftsman" salad, or a "Mary Ann Starkweather" steak. (Your editor admits to having only a beer, delicious onion rings, and a coffee but insists he is going back for more.) (Your typist offers the unsolicited opinion that the aforementioned is a pretty strange combination of goodies.)

NEWS: The City is in the process of making an application for a Small Cities grant which would include funds for further repairs and restoration of the Gilbert House (Girls' Club). These repairs are essential if the City is to stabilize the building; the alternative - to do nothing at this time - would jeopardize the investment the City has already made in this important landmark.



September 1980

NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 - 8:00 pm

PLACE: First Presbyterian Church of Ypsilanti
(Corner of Emmet and Washington Streets)

PROGRAM: The now famous (but never before seen in Ypsilanti!) film:
MAIN STREET

This is not a version of Sinclair Lewis' novel - it is a new color and sound film produced by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The film takes a look at the people who are helping to restore the buildings and revitalize the economy of old downtowns in smaller cities from New England to the Dakotas.

It considers not only building preservation but also such problems as parking, store window displays, merchandizing techniques, and how to organize the merchants. The film includes work done by Preservation Urban Design, Ann Arbor.

This is a short, first-rate show.

and

Barry Loveland, B.S. in Architecture from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute who will receive a graduate degree from EMU's Historic Preservation program in December and who is currently an intern in the city's Community Development Department will share his slides showing downtown restorations in Hudson and Corning, New York. Barry used this same presentation to interest merchants in Troy, NY in downtown preservation.

This meeting is a good chance to see old friends and meet new members! Call at least ONE person you think might be interested!

Refreshments will be served, of course!

The 1980 HERITAGE FOUNDATION HOUSE TOUR was again a success! The Foundation netted about \$750.00 and over 300 visitors discovered that Ypsilanti can be an exciting and elegant place to live. Thanks to all - especially to the generous and hard-working home owners. You can remember with pride the important contribution you have made to the community. Thanks also to the guides who did such an excellent job and to the participating florists who so splendidly contributed floral arrangements.

Plans for next year are already underway. Any suggestions? Like to serve on the committee? Call Jane Bird, 482-8989.

STILL BLOOMING!

The May sale of marigolds conducted by the Heritage Foundation at the corner of Cross and Huron Streets was a success, both in a small way financially and in a big way as a means of helping to brighten up our town. Report is that we'll do it again!

COULD IT HAPPEN HERE?

Did you know that a wrecking crew recently razed the second oldest house in Chicago? The crew had a permit for a different address and - by mistake - tore down the only surviving example of German Gothic architecture in the Windy City. Chicago needs to educate its wrecking crews!

SPEAKING OF WRECKERS ...

Ypsilanti has recently saved one of its finest examples of Queen Anne style domestic architecture from the wrecking ball. The house, now just south of Michigan Ave. on Hamilton St., is soon to be moved to a new location on West Michigan. In this case, the wrecker himself, J.D. Porter, has bought the building to preserve it!

HISTORIC LANDMARK DESIGNATIONS

Four more structures recently were given historic landmark designation by the City: A.M.E. Brown Chapel and the First Ward (or Adams Street) School, both on South Adams; the Becker-Stachlewitz House on West Forest; and the Water Tower. These important structures are now protected by the Historic District ordinance. Such designation protects them from being altered without approval of the Historic District Commission.

IN PROGRESS ...

Be assured that Tom Durant is making progress in his restoration of the Old Library (Sesquicentennial Hall). Note also the new copper soffits being constructed at the Beyer Apt. building. What a transformation there!

PRESERVATION EASTERN CELEBRATES

The new graduate program at E.M.U. in Historic Preservation held a reception dinner at Woodruff's Grove on Sat. Sept. 6, with about eighty people in attendance. Jane Bird and Nat Edmunds were guest speakers.

GRIN AND BEAR IT By LICHTY



"There are worse things than being bypassed by progress ... Like being surrounded by it."

MARKERS AWARDED

Two more Heritage Foundation Historic Structure markers were awarded this summer: Old Town Hall and 103 North Adams, presently the home of Tom and Anne Venner. Both buildings, in their present excellent state of repair, reflect a standard of maintenance that deserves special recognition.

DON'T FORGET:

The Foundation subscribes to two journals:
THE OLD HOUSE JOURNAL

and

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

They are available for loan - call Jane Bird, 482-8989.

Also, the Community Development Dept. at City Hall has those and two other journals:

JOURNAL OF THE SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIANS

and

ASSOCIATION FOR PRESERVATION
TECHNOLOGY BULLETIN

Our Ypsilanti Area Public Library is also a source of information for those interested in preservation subjects.

tion.

DUES ARE DUE!

Call Mary Warner, our secretary-treasurer at 482-8217. Pitch in and feel a part of a vital community organization.

GENERAL MOTORS HONORED

Governor Milliken was present at a ceremony on Fri. Sept. 12 honoring General Motors with State Register designation for its historic Willow Run plant. Nathalie Edmunds and Jane Bird were among the invited guests.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION !

Your editor received a note after the House Tour containing the following reference: "You must mention how very effective the guide was at the Grove Street house. She was young ... and in granny clothes, and she was well informed about the history and development of the house and she shared it with such enthusiasm and pride one would think the house was hers, which it was not". Who could this be but our own Christine Blinn? Seriously, Christine, thanks and many thanks. You set a standard for all future guides!

HERITAGE THEME STRESSED AT FESTIVAL

Another successful Yesteryear Heritage Festival is only a series of fond memories: who can forget that golden Saturday morning and the charm of that most wholesome and beautifully paced parade? Good memories for the long winter ahead. But plans are already underway for the 1981 Festival. Fortunately, all the same hard-working veterans have volunteered to serve as chairpersons. The dates: Aug. 28, 29, 30
We'll be there!

RANKINS LEAVING

Members, particularly active members, will be sorry to hear that the Rankins, Bruce and Shelley, are moving to the Burns Park area of Ann Arbor. They report that they are leaving with "mixed feelings" but that a particular offer of a house there was too good to pass up. We'll sorely miss you, Bruce and Shelley, and so will Ypsilanti. Come and visit when you can and THANKS!

NEW MEMBERS:

We warmly welcome these new members to the Foundation:

Jim and Betty Campbell
107 West Michigan
Mrs. Shirley Durrett
1346 Mesa
Margaret Johnston
Box 96 (925 Sheridan)
Jim and Marla Gousseff
1202 Collegewood
Jim and Lori Murray
214 North Huron
William Fennel
202 South Huron

NEW REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE

It will be welcome news to anyone familiar with Christine Blinn's ways in the kitchen that she will be in charge of refreshments this year. She needs volunteers to bring goodies in November, January, March and May. Call her at 483-3512 !

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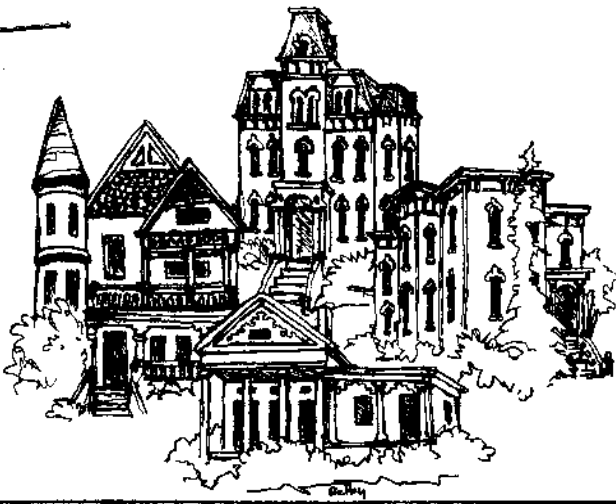
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COMING ATTRACTIONS:

Plan ahead - mark your calendar now! The special event of the November 25 meeting will be a slide presentation by Mr. Robert LaRue, who will delight us with photographs of specific Ypsilanti buildings which still exist - first as they appeared originally and, then, as they appear today. Don't miss this special showing which comes to us highly recommended!





Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation

November 1980

NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25 - 8:00 pm - Annual Meeting

PLACE: First Presbyterian Church of Ypsilanti
(Corner of Emmet and Washington Streets)

PROGRAM: Mr. Robert LaRue will present an entertaining and informative slide show of Ypsilanti buildings WITH A DIFFERENCE. Mr. LaRue has gone to the trouble of not only photographing Ypsilanti's interesting buildings but of searching out photographs of the structures as they once were, in their early, if not original, form. These old and new images will be juxtaposed, giving us a rare opportunity to compare notes on the "built environment" we all love. In a few instances, Mr. LaRue has three versions of the same building - the historical, the recent, and the RESTORED. This should spark a lively discussion among those present, so for FUN and ENLIGHTENMENT, come and bring a friend, young or old. (Know anyone who remembers Old Ypsilanti? Bring him or her along! Mr. LaRue arrived here at the age of three in 1923 - not exactly an interloper, would you agree?)

NEWS from YHF Board Meeting:

At a recent meeting of the Board of Directors of the Heritage Foundation the members, after lengthy consideration, reluctantly decided that the Foundation could no longer lease the Towner House from the Presbyterian Church. Many factors entered into that unhappy decision, but chief among them was the growing necessity for major repairs (new roof, exterior paint, new boiler and insulation) and the apparent unwillingness of the Church to grant a long-term lease which would have been necessary in order for the Foundation to recover those large expenditures through rent. A detailed letter has gone to the Church's Board of Trustees - should you like to read it or ask questions about this move, please contact Jane Bird.

At the same Board meeting, members discussed both the merits of our present projects and the possibilities for new directions, new options. This general discussion led to the formation of two new specific committees, one to evaluate our current activities and to suggest new or future projects (to be chaired by Nat Edmunds), the other to discuss long term options (to be chaired by Bruce Rankin). Any members who would like to offer suggestions relevant to either committee should contact the appropriate chairperson.

HERITAGE FOUNDATION ACTIVITY LIST:

Are you aware of all the on-going activities of the Heritage Foundation?

- House Tour
- Public lecture series
- Historic Structure Marker program
- Calendar publication
- Newsletter
- Fund raising projects
- Christmas party
- Fourth of July float and Heritage Festival parade
- Lending library
- Refreshments

If you are not already participating in at least one of these activities, please call Jane Bird (482-8989) who can direct you to the appropriate chairperson. If you have other projects you would like to see developed, SPEAK UP. Don't sit back! The Foundation NEEDS YOU!

"IN THE MIDST OF LIFE WE ARE IN DEATH" ...

Lest we forget the memorable Queen Anne structure near the corner of Michigan and Hamilton, we should record the loss of that fine old building, solid and beautiful, to the unmerciful wrecking ball. Unfortunately, the building was not in the Historic District, and all too easily fell victim to the parking needs of the bank which owned the property, the high costs of moving, and the complicated legal restrictions attached to transporting such a large structure. (See Ypsilanti Press, Nov. 13). Standing isolated as it did, it served to remind us of former glories, fine craftsmanship, and an age apparently more imaginative than we can sometimes claim our own to be.

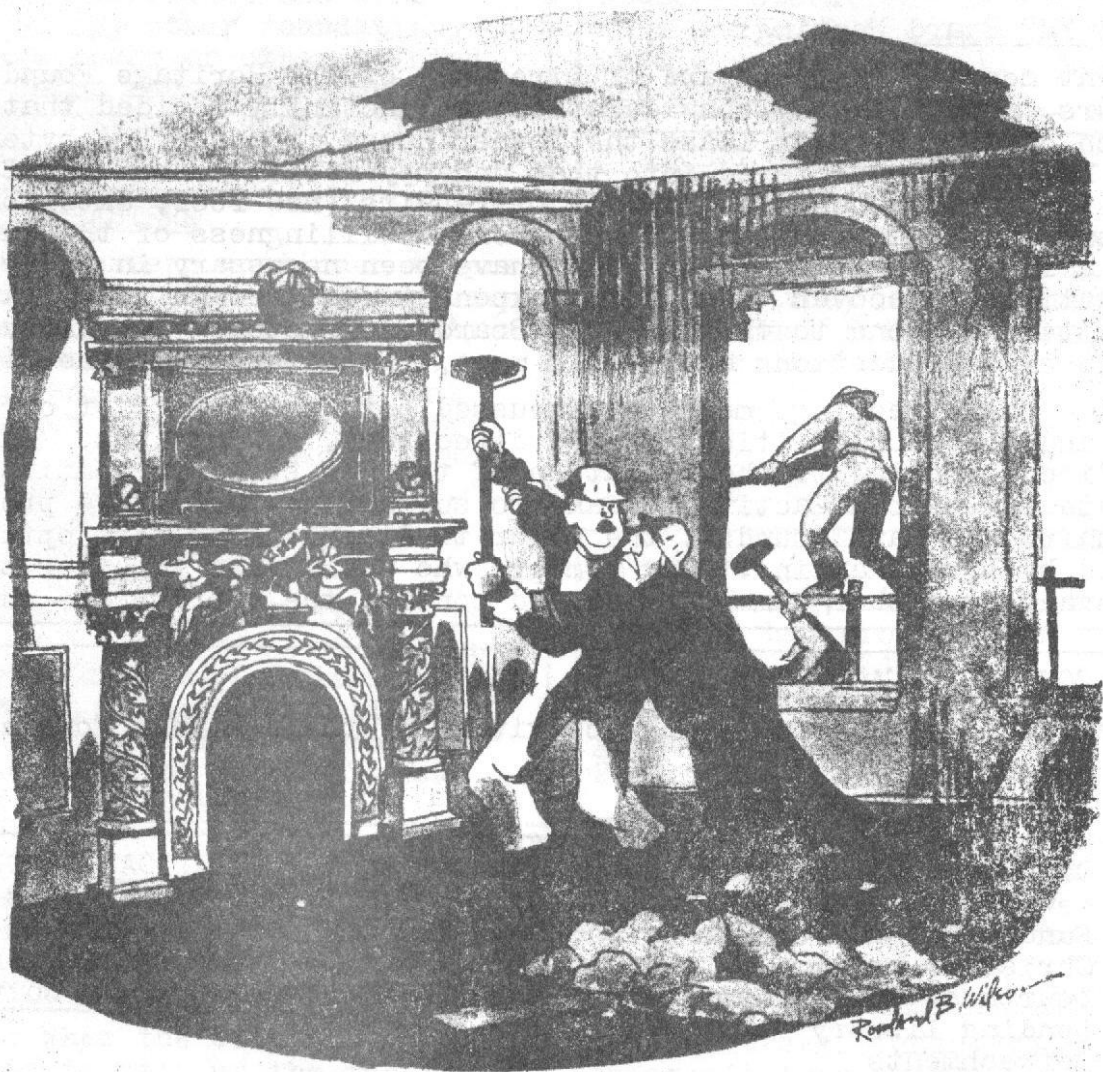
But, take heart, remember when ...

the old Library was falling apart,
the old City Hall was crumbling around the eaves, the roof
leaked, and the steps were falling to bits,
the old District Court was a shambles,
the Thompson house looked derelict,
Depot Town was on the skids and the Caboose and Farmers
Market weren't even dreams,

and vow no time for tears - decide here and now that you will become more actively involved in preservation work in Ypsilanti through at least one of the following:

Heritage Foundation projects	Historical Society
Depot Town Association	City government
Historic East Side Asso.	Your own property

As Michael L. Ainslie, the new president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation warns in the November 1980 issue of Preservation News: "Are we prepared for the tremendous pressures that we and our cultural resources will be facing in the '80s? ... we have just begun to see the urban reinvestment cycle take off ... occasionally insensitive public officials and unbridled developers have put enormous pressure on our historic resources. We haven't seen anything yet ... We must begin talking to bankers ... and political decision makers. There is not yet a consensus that preservation is a significant national priority ... we have a challenge ahead of us to educate and convince those people ... We've made much progress, but I do not think we have a consensus that preservation is the key to redeveloping our cities and to creating safe, aesthetically pleasing and integrated communities".



"Face it, Charlie. Progress is fifty-per-cent destruction."

Drawing by Rowland B. Wilson; © 1965 The New Yorker Magazine, Inc.

NOTEWORTHY
IMPROVEMENTS !!

NEXT TIME YOU'RE OUT ...

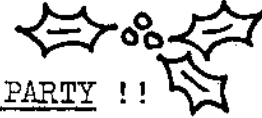
Notice the house at 110 N. Hamilton, now owned by David and Mickey Young. What a transformation! Mickey's several sessions with the Historic District Commission seem to have borne beautiful fruit. She now has a splendidly restored structure in handsome gray, white and charcoal, that must give her great pride - a pride shared by all of us who notice and care. Thanks, David & Mickey, for a top quality job!

And who could fail to notice the in-progress resurrection of the old Library (Sesquicentennial Hall) on North Huron? The man to thank for that re-emerging beauty is Tom Durant, who will be our speaker in January!

STARTLING DISCOVERY!

If you haven't visited the new indoor Farmers Market in the old Freight House in Depot Town, you're in for a startling discovery. The Victorians, you know, loved what the English poet, John Betjeman, calls "that marvelous waste of space!" Now one Victorian space is being put to use in an exciting new way - a year-round market, with the freshest vegetables, flowers, fruits, and health foods at competitive prices. Besides all this, there's the wainscoted coffee shop at the south end of the building, with enormous multi-paned windows out of which even the worst looks wonderful. Here you can linger about the old pot-bellied stove while you sip coffee and munch doughnuts and homemade pie.

DOWNTOWN RENOVATION



CHRISTMAS PARTY !!

All dues-paid members are cordially invited to the annual Christmas Party to be held again this year, we are happy to announce, at the lovely Carpenter Gothic home of Jane & John VanBolt. Paid-up members will receive invitations soon. Pay now and attend the party!

DUES are due, Due, DUE, DUE !!

The latest issue of Old House Journal, which you may take out on loan by calling Jane Bird at 482-8989, has as its lead article "Decorating for an Old-Fashioned Christmas" - also "Painting Hints II", "A New Fire Hazard", "Hot Water Heating System", "Sanding a Parquet Floor", "Restorer's Notebook", and "Cozy Corners and Inglenooks".

The HIGHLIGHT OF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON, for me at least, and I highly recommend it for thee, is Greenfield Village and Henry Ford Museum at this special time of the year - from Dec. 6 to Jan. 4 the houses in the Village, and the Museum itself, are decorated for the holiday in the appropriate period, goodies are cooking over open fires, craftspeople are demonstrating their skills, and this year the special Christmas exhibit features TOYS of the past - who can resist the sights and smells? If you have never experienced these wonderful places at Christmas, this is the year!

Yours for the most
delightful Christmas
ever, *Jane*

DOWNTOWN RENOVATION

Have you noticed the renovation of Oscar Haab's building at the north-east corner of Michigan and Huron ... the well-matched brickwork and the new windows? To be followed soon by new awnings!

And, did you know that Andy Smith has purchased the old Cunningham Drugs building at the north-east corner of Michigan and Washington and is in the process of renovation?

Both of these projects should make a marked improvement in the appearance (and vitality) of our downtown.

MATERIALS UNLIMITED

Have you yet visited Materials Unlimited at the Michigan Avenue bridge in downtown Ypsilanti? The collection of rare and beautiful old building materials, stained glass, antiques, and decorative items continues to grow week by week - as does the flow of visitors from near and far.

ever, *Jane*

FOUNDATION CALENDARS

The 1981 Calendars are available! If you haven't bought yours as yet, now is the hour. Remember, also, they are easy & often cherished gifts, for children's teachers, neighbors now moved away, a faithful mailman, a special friend, at a bargain price of only \$3 each.



NEW MEMBER:

We are delighted to extend welcome our newest member, Jerry Fouchey, 1019 Maplewood, who is the facilitator for the new exciting Ypsilanti Public Schools Ypsilanti history project.

THIS OLD HOUSE

Don't forget THIS OLD HOUSE every Thursday at 9:30 pm with repeat at 6:30 pm on Saturdays - Channel 56.

DON RANDAZZO OFF AGAIN!

Don Randazzo, our inveterate conference attendee, will participate in a Preservation Workshop to be held Nov. 20-21 at Mt. Carroll, Illinois. Sponsored by the Association for Preservation Technology, the program will specialize in the subject of masonry cleaning. Don expects the course to be a more intense examination of the subject in which he had earlier training at Little Rock, Ark. Don, an invaluable member of the Historic District Commission, should be even better equipped to help Ypsilanti with its "brick and mortar" problems after this workshop. Happy journey and safe return, Don.

OLD REFERENCES TO YPSILANTI

Jack Harris has in his possession a book copyrighted 1895 entitled Ocean to Ocean on Horseback, by Capt. Willard Glazier, which presents in journal entry form an overland tour from the Atlantic to the Pacific in 1876. The Captain spoke on the heroes of the Civil War, on the evening of Aug. 5th at Ypsilanti's Union Hall to "a large number of men of the town, who gave me a hearty welcome, ... many of them were old soldiers". Staying two nights at the Hawkins House, he left Ypsilanti in "intense heat" - 85 to 90 degrees - over "dry dusty roads", passing Ann Arbor, "not taking more than a passing glance at the University, noticing, however, that women as well as men were among the students - a recent and wise change". Do any other Foundation members have books or other printed materials which record Ypsilanti's place in the nation's history? Jack would be interested: 485-2155.

Present Heritage Foundation BOARD

MEMBERS:

Jane Bird	482-8989
David Blinn	483-3512
Rose Clavez	487-5173
Nat Edmunds	482-5218
Oscar Haab	inactive
Jack Harris	485-2155
Bill Nickels	483-8896
Don Randazzo	482-6144
Bruce Rankin	995-2516
Jane VanBolt	482-6972
Mary Warner	482-8217
Richard Wood	483-8005

If you have relevant complaints, ideas, suggestions, or would simply like to vent your spleen, call any or all of them!

SPEAKERS IN ANN ARBOR

Nathalie Edmunds and Jane Bird spoke Sat. Nov. 8 at the U of M to those attending the Regional Conference of the Interior Design Educators' Council on the subject of Historic Preservation in Ypsilanti.

NEW COMMISSION MEMBER

David Blinn, an active Board member of the Heritage Foundation and the East Side Asso., has recently been appointed to the Historic District Commission. David replaces Shelley Rankin, who had to relinquish her position when the family moved to the Great Unmentionable to the west. With his working knowledge of old house restoration, as well as hardware and building materials, David should prove a valuable asset to the Commission.

SPEAKING OF THE RANKINS ...

place in the nation's history": Jack would be interested: 485-2155.

PRESERVATION EASTERN

Preservation Eastern continues to present a series of interesting lectures and seminars on historic preservation and related subjects. Their most recent program, held at EMU on Sat. Nov. 15, under the sensitive direction of Lydia McDonald, was on Black Historic Sites, and featured a fascinating slide presentation by the architect Richard Dozier, which showed the influence of Africa on American architecture and craftsmanship. Dr. A.P. Marshall, of EMU and the Historic District Commission, spoke on Black History in Ypsilanti. Watch the paper for future programs or call the Dept. of Geography and Geology at EMU: 487-0218.

SPEAKING OF THE RANKINS ...


Bruce and Shelley, who by no means intend to give up their attachment to Ypsilanti, would like to advertise that they have a carpet for sale. Ideal for Victorian interiors, the Lees wool floral pattern, 12 x 16 plus hallway, is in red roses on an off-white background, just 9 mo. old. Call Rankins at 995-2516 for details.

FOR SALE:

Oriental rug, antique Sarouk, deep rose-red background, good condition, approx. 11x9, \$400.

Oriental rug, antique, wine background, fair condition, no fringe, 2'2" x 4'4", \$25.

482-8989



COMING ATTRACTIONS: Plan ahead - mark your calendar now! The special event of the January 27 meeting will be Tom Durant's show-and-tell program on the restoration of Old Town Hall, that crown jewel of Huron Street, so spectacularly rescued from oblivion or worse by Tom and his compatriots. **DON'T MISS THIS!**

LATE NOTE: When the City was forced to withdraw travel funds, the Foundation Board voted to pick up the tab for Don Randazzo's trip to the preservation workshop in Illinois, feeling that the benefit to preservation in Ypsilanti more than justified the expense.

NEWSLETTER

* A GOOD NEWS ISSUE !! *

*
NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, January 27, 1981

PLACE: First Presbyterian Church of Ypsilanti (corner of Washington and Emmet)

SPEAKER: Mr. Tom Durant

PROGRAM: "OLD TOWN HALL - YPSILANTI'S MOST SPECTACULAR RESCUE"

Mr. Durant, contractor for the restoration of Ypsilanti's old city hall, will present a show-and-tell program - slides and discussion - of the rescue and restoration of that crown jewel of North Huron Street, Old Town Hall. Basing his program on before-and-after slides of the project, Mr. Durant will focus on specific, out-of-the-ordinary problems which he faced during this monumental task.



Don't waste time in front of the TV when you can cheer yourself up among friends and neighbors as you look and listen to the story of HOW THEY PUT IT BACK TOGETHER, and thereby helped tremendously to turn this town around, moving toward a more positive image of itself and a restoration of some of its former glory.

Come with questions! Mr. Durant is expecting them!! You will have at your mercy for an hour or more a man whose expertise is invaluable. Don't miss this rare opportunity!!!

REFRESHMENTS provided, of course!

*
NEW MEMBERS:

Membership continues to grow. We are delighted to extend our welcome to these new members:

Dick Leinbach
507 Oakwood

Vickie Buffet
322 Maple

Martha Hamlin
3695 W. Waters, AA

Sandra Knight
613 E. Cross

David & Ethel McGaffin
2165 Midvale

Lynn Tabor
417 Maple

Jerrold & Janet Joseph
1102 Kingwood

Steven & Mary Jentzen
118 S. Huron

* NOTEWORTHY IMPROVEMENTS !!

Have you noticed ...

... the newly installed shutters on the south side of the Durant Building (Sesquicentennial Hall)? What a change is there, from frightening decay to solid elegance!

Have you heard ...

... that Andy Smith has already had an open house for his five new apartments over the old Cunningham Drug Store building (originally the Light Guard Armory). Each apartment has a splendid new bath, small kitchen, and lots of light from the old windows. ALL are already rented. Exterior improvements to follow in the spring. Congratulations, Andy !

* 1981 YPSILANTI HERITAGE FESTIVAL UNDERWAY:

On Friday, January 9, the Heritage Festival Committee held its first meeting to make plans for the next festival. Nat Edmunds reports that most of the old committee chairpeople are back in the saddle again (which suggests the strong on-going commitment to this major event) but she adds that some chair positions are still open and that there is always need for more volunteers!

* EAST SIDE ASSOCIATION.

Christine Blinn has been elected the new president of the East Side Association. Congratulations!

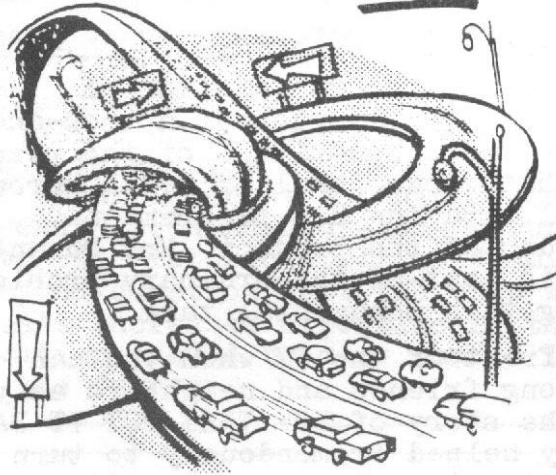
FOUNDATION CALENDARS
for 1981 are still available!

FREE CLASSIFIED:

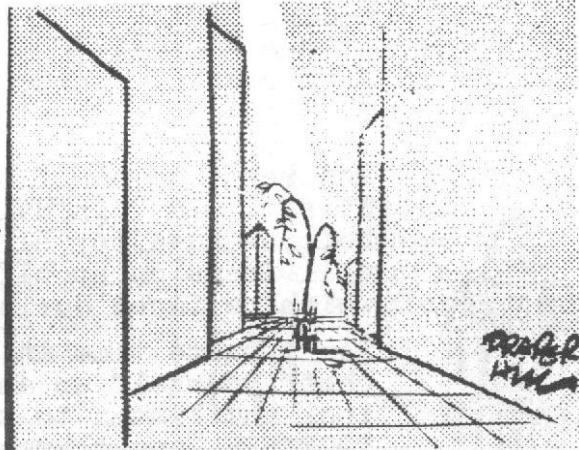
Providing there is room in the current issue, your editor is willing to advertise, free of charge, items for sale or trade. Please, no commercial ads.

Call 485-2155

DEAR LEADER. IS YOUR CITY SUFFERING FROM:



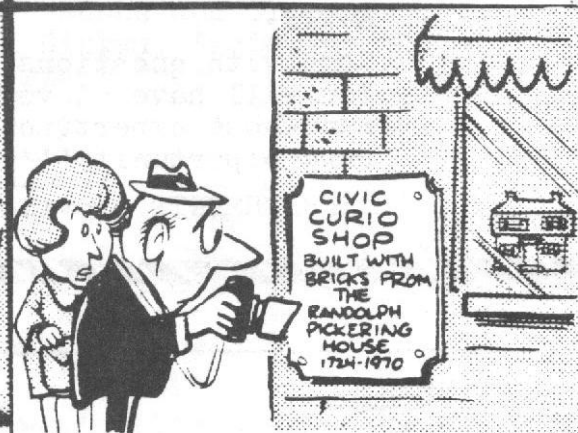
HARDENING OF THE ARTERIES ?



DANGEROUSLY LOW CHLOROPHYLL LEVELS ?



ELEPHANTIASIS OF THE PARKING FACILITY ?



OR RAMPANT HINDSIGHT ?

Rx: PRESERVATION - Before It's too late!

FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETS ...

... to implement suggestions from the new Current Activities Committee (Bill Nickels, Nat Edmunds, Jack Harris, David Blinn). The Board is meeting on a regular monthly basis now in an effort to reassess current activities and discuss future plans. Efforts are underway to distribute the work-load among a larger number of the membership. Chairmanships (chairpersonships?) have been assumed for several committees, but not all positions have as yet been filled, and membership in most committees is still wide open. If you are interested in becoming actively involved in any of the following activities of the Foundation, call either the chair listed or Jane Bird (482-8989).

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Calendar of Events (including list of activities, chairs, and volunteers) | Rose Clavez, 487-5173 |
| 2. House Tour | |
| 3. Engagement Calendar | Bruce Rankin, 995-2516 |
| 4. Building (Historic Structure) Markers | Don Randazzo, 482-6144 |
| 5. Marigold Sale | Rose Clavez |
| 6. Christmas Party | Nat Edmunds, 482-5218 |
| 7. Floats, July 4th and Festival | Bill Nickels, 483-8896 |
| 8. Programs | |
| 9. Newsletter | Jack Harris, 485-2155 |
| 10. Bazaar | |
| 11. Refreshments | Christine Blinn, 483-3512 |
| 12. Host/Name Tags, etc. at meetings | Richard Wood, 483-8005 |
| 13. Library | Jane Bird, 482-8989 |
| 14. Legal Advice | John Van Bolt, 483-6972 |
| 15. Publicity | Richard Wood |
| 16. Membership List | Nat Edmunds |
| 17. Awards Program and Correspondence | John Van Bolt |
| 18. Legal Forms and Tax Returns | Jane Bird & John Van Bolt |

Most of the above people, who have committed themselves to the projects as listed, need all the help they can get. Call them now, and let them know of your interest.

IF YOU HAVE SEEN ...

... the wonderful improvements at 110 N. Hamilton, mentioned in our last Newsletter, you may be interested to know that the owners, David and Mickey Young, had all of the old, cracked paint stripped from that building, NOT with a heat gun, but with a HEAT PAD, a new electric device which seems to work wonders, if the speed at which they achieved that top-quality job is any indication. The heat pad was recommended to them by Don Randazzo during one of the Young's sessions with the Historic District Commission. Again, congratulations on an outstanding job, David and Mickey!

Ypsilanti Public Schools LOCAL HISTORY Project..

...progresses according to plan. Heritage Foundation members involved are Jerry Fouchey as project facilitator, and Nat Edmunds and Jane Bird as Advisory Board members. More on this exciting development in future issues!

MAYOR IN THE NEWS:

Ypsilanti Mayor George Goodman was featured in a full-length interview in The Ann Arbor News, Saturday, January 10. He was responding to questions about Ypsilanti, its changing image, and local attitudes. To quote the Mayor: "...in terms of perception, I think one thing that has happened is that people from outside the community often see the community in a better light than do the people who live there". On the same page of the same issue were comments from local citizens in response to the question, "What do you like about Ypsilanti?" Comments included: "...sense of community... relatively tension-free atmosphere...much like a small town...efficient and friendly police department, in fact, all city workers are friendly...almost perfect garbage and street services, snow removal, etc. ...the neighborhood and neighborly feeling".

RANDAZZO RETURNS ENLIGHTENED !!

Don Randazzo attended an important national "bricks and mortar" conference in Illinois in November. Financed at the last minute by the Heritage Foundation, when city funds were withdrawn due to the budget crunch, Don has come back laden with sheaves of information on this subject of vital interest to this community. He has already given an hour-long report of his findings to the Historic District Commission, proving beyond question that the trip was worthwhile. Don's increased expertise in this area of preservation should be more than a little useful in the future.

WOODRUFF'S GROVE OPEN AGAIN:

We are very pleased to remind you that Woodruff's Grove, Ypsilanti's fine new restaurant and bar, which suffered a fire shortly before the new year, is open again to serve you.

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

It may be worth reminding members that the Commission continues to meet the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of each month, at City Hall, in the meeting room to the left of the Michigan Ave. entrance. Open to the public.

DON'T FORGET

Please remember that the Ypsilanti Farmers Market is open every Wed. & Sat. in the old freight house in Depot Town. Marvelously fresh vegetables, fruits, and now some specialty meat items are on sale at reasonable prices.

Please also remember that Ypsilanti has its own recycling center, open Wed. & Sat., 9:00-3:00, and located just off Forest Ave. on the new road which follows the tracks into Depot Town. The spirited folks there will gladly take your newsprint, magazines, glass, metal cans, used oil, and cardboard. This is an expanding and vital project!

At the HISTORICAL MUSEUM, 200 North Huron:

Current special exhibit - "Shoes and Slippers", the collection of Carol Ristau, featuring examples in fascinating materials from leather to glass

Beginning 2nd week of February - D.A.R. Exhibit

COMING ATTRACTION:



March 31 meeting - so you bought an old house (or a not-so-old one), replaced the roof, repaired the plumbing, and brought the wiring up to code - and now it's time to paint and choosing a color is a worse problem than all the others?

Help is on the way! Plan ahead - mark your calendar (your Heritage Foundation calendar!) now! John Van Bolt, not long returned from Louisville, Kentucky where he attended a "Decorating the Victorian House" conference co-sponsored by the Old-House Journal and the Victorian Society of America, will show slides (some historic examples, some local) and talk about EXTERIOR COLORS! Lots of new ideas!! Room for discussion (and argument)!!!

DON'T MISS THIS !!!



NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, March 24, 1981

PLACE: The HUTCHINSON MANSION (High/Scope) !!!
(Corner of North River and East Forest)

SPEAKER: John Van Bolt, Attorney
(Member, Ypsilanti Historic District Commission)

PROGRAM: "VICTORIAN HOUSE COLORS: EXTERIOR"

Mr. Van Bolt, owner (with his wife, Jane) of the charming carpenter's Gothic house at 410 N. Huron, where the Foundation has held its Christmas party for the past two years and which was on Home Tour during Festival 1979, recently attended a conference entitled "Decorating the Victorian House" in Louisville, Kentucky under the auspices of the Old-House Journal and the Victorian Society of America. He will combine local and national examples in his slide presentation and talk about EXTERIOR COLORS!

Bring your notebooks! Lots of new ideas!! Room for discussion - even argument!!! With so many personal tastes vying for attention there could even be a riot (of fun!) So come join us, whether or not you have any immediate plans for painting your own dwelling. (You can always tell the neighbors what colors to paint their houses!) Seriously, this is a rare chance to expand our horizons on this all-too-often frustrating challenge. DON'T MISS THIS COLORFUL PROGRAM - PRESENTED IN THE ELEGANT INTERIOR OF THE HUTCHINSON MANSION !!! Refreshments will be served.

1981 YPSILANTI HERITAGE FESTIVAL:

Nat Edmunds, chairperson of the Festival Committee, reports that meetings are in progress, plans are being laid, and all signals are marked "Go!" for this important annual event. Remember, you can have the satisfaction of feeling INVOLVED as well as being simply an observer-participant in this annual celebration so important to our community. Nat repeats that the Festival needs VOLUNTEERS! Call Nat at 482-5218 or the Chamber of Commerce at 482-4920 NOW!

THE ARTRAIN IS COMING . . .
THE ARTRAIN IS COMING . . .
May 29, 30, 31, June 1, 2

Now at the HISTORICAL
MUSEUM:

Terry and Judy Towler's
fascinating collection of
old bottles, including
some wonderful Ypsilanti
examples!
Worth the trip!!

YPSILANTI POST CARDS !

Hey! Have you heard about the new
Ypsilanti Post Card Collectors Club?
Yes, they're out of the closet at last!
If you'd like to share in the fun, just
bring those old post cards and other
Ypsilanti memorabilia to show, share,
trade or sell. Even if you haven't got
an old Ypsilanti post card to your name,
this is the place to get started - and
meet some new faces and nice friends in
the bargain. The next meeting of this
very informal group will be on Sunday,
March 29, at 6:30 p.m. in the Caboose in
Depot Town.

MARIGOLD SALE Scheduled for May 16

Rosalie Clavez, chairperson of the second annual Heritage Foundation
Marigold Sale, reports that she is still negotiating with nurserymen.
Prices for plants are bound to be a little higher this year, especially
with the cost of heating fuel rising as it is. Still, Rose is undaunted
and is trying to make arrangements for a repeat of last year's performance
on the green to the north of Old Town Hall at the corner of N. Huron and
W. Cross.

She will be glad to hear from volunteers who can give a couple of hours
on sale day and is even prepared to take orders, so call 487-5173. She
hopes to have a larger selection of plants this year, including some
bigger varieties of marigolds. Plan now to support this worthy - and
beautiful - project!

CONGRATULATIONS !!!

Bruce and Shelley Rankin
are the proud and happy
parents of a brand new
baby - Charles !

HISTORIC STRUCTURE MARKERS

The Historic Structure Marker committee
members are in the final throes of selecting
a handful of buildings worthy of markers.
As usual, the decision must be based not only
on the historic and/or architectural signifi-
cance of the structure but also on the present
high quality of upkeep.

HELPFUL HINTS:

Inexpensive Wallpaper?

For a good selection of wallpapers in the price range between \$1.45 and \$4.25 per single roll, write to:

Mutual Wallpaper & Paint Co.
812 West Main St.
P.O. Box 3200
Louisville, Kentucky 40202

Jack Harris has the most recent catalog which he would be happy to show you - call 485-2155.

Old Bottle Stains?

Some "stains" are permanent, for they are in fact erosions. However, if the stain has been caused by former contents, try filling the bottle 2/3 full with warm water, then add two capfuls of a household cleaner and the crushed shells of two eggs. Shake. Empty and rinse.

Bottle Stopper Stuck?

Put the bottle in the freezer upside down for 10-15 minutes. Then remove from freezer and run tepid water over the neck of the bottle (where the stopper is stuck). The combination of the cold, which causes the stopper to contract, and the warm, which expands the neck, allows the stopper to slip out.

Keeping Baskets Clean?

To clean a basket, try baking soda and warm water applied with a toothbrush. Rinse by dipping toothbrush in water and brushing over basket again. Don't let it soak. For added protection, baskets may be shellacked "once every hundred years".

.....From the February 1981 issue of
House and Garden

COMING ATTRACTION, May 26 meeting:

Very special speaker for May will be Deputy Joe Marshall of the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Dept., speaking on the theft and protection of art and antiques.

DON'T MISS THIS !!
Mark your Hert. Fnd. calendar now !!

Also in May - Our annual presentation of
Historic Structure Markers !!



NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, May 26, 1981 - 8:00 p.m.

PLACE: The HUTCHINSON HOUSE (High/Scope)
at the
corner of North River and East Forest

SPEAKER: Deputy Joe Marshall, Washtenaw County Sheriff's
Department

PROGRAM: THE PROTECTION OF ART, ANTIQUES, AND OTHER VALUABLES
FROM THEFT AND VANDALISM
and
THE PRESENTATION OF HISTORIC STRUCTURE MARKERS

Have you worried about the theft of your most treasured possessions?
Wondered what to do to prevent the loss of your precious antiques?
Worried about your special collection of coins, paintings, silver?

We've got the perfect person for you! Deputy Joe Marshall is not only a law enforcement officer doing his job - he is genuinely and personally interested in this subject. He is a collector of antiques himself and he lives in an old house in Manchester. He not only knows first-hand the problems of theft and vandalism as he has experienced them as a deputy in this area, but he has traveled to other parts of the country and can tell us about similar problems there. He will tell us how to mark our valuables (even coins!) to assist police in recovery. He will brief us on the "fine arts floater" and other special insurance riders we should have. From a few minutes on the phone with Deputy Marshall, your editor can assure you that we have a speaker who is not only knowledgeable, but articulate and enthusiastic about his subject. He says his program will include slides and last for only about thirty minutes, after which he anticipates about twenty minutes of questions. I think, however, he's in for a surprise. **START TELLING YOUR FRIENDS ABOUT THIS EVENT RIGHT NOW** - let's pack the elegantly restored central room of the Hutchinson House for this important occasion.

The owners of the following buildings will be awarded Historic Structure markers and will be our Guests of Honor:

Mr. and Mrs. John Davis - 138 Hawkins
Mr. and Mrs. Worden Geer - 501 Pearl
Mr. and Mrs. Steven Jentzen - 118 South Huron
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Woodside and Family - 214 North Huron
Ypsilanti Historical Society - 220 North Huron

Slides of all the structures will be shown and refreshments will be served.

Now at the HISTORICAL MUSEUM:

Special exhibit on early home and school life in Ypsilanti, assembled by Judy Litschel and Jerry Fouchey of the Ypsilanti Public Schools Local History Project.

Don't miss this !

ARTRAIN is coming Have fun in BOOMER DAYS are coming ... Depot Town!

HERITAGE FOUNDATION Floats:

Bill Nichols is in charge of our floats again this year, both for the July 4th parade and for the Heritage Festival parade. Call Bill at 483-8896 if you have ideas or can offer help!

ARTRAIN ACTIVITIES (May 29 - June 2):

Boomer Days Begin	School Art Exhibit
Golden Garrison Ceremony	Antique Ypsilanti Post Card Show
Farmers Market Grand Opening	Community High School's "Power Play"
Ypsilanti Players Cabaret Theatre	Big Band Concert at the Freight House
New Library Bookmobile Unveiled	Regional Artists to Demonstrate
Recreation Department Soccer Tournament	

There will be a glorious Preview Opening on the 29th at 6:00 p.m. in the Freight House - all are invited! Then, if you have \$10, you can attend the Champagne Reception at Woodruff's Grove later in the evening.

Watch your local paper for times!

PAID ADVERTISING:

Remember, the Foundation has a new policy for paid advertising in the News-letter. The prices are better than "right"! - but only for products and services relating to historic preservation and old-house-renewal. Individual members (not businesses) may still place small ads free of charge. To place ads for the first Fall issue (Sept) call your editor, Jack Harris, at 485-2155.

Ann Arbor Newcomers to visit YPSILANTI:

Jack Harris has agreed to guide a group of ten to fifteen couples, new to Ann Arbor, on an introductory tour of Ypsilanti. Sponsored by the Ann Arbor Coterie, a newcomers' club, the group is scheduled to visit Ypsilanti on May 31 from 1:30 until 5:00. It will be a walking tour which will begin at Old Town Hall and will visit, among other highlights, the Historical Museum and the Michigan Artrain which will be stationed in Depot Town at the time. What a joy to live in a town that you can show off with pride to visitors! Anyone wishing to help Jack in this project, please call 485-2155.

MATERIALS UNLIMITED CITED NATIONALLY:

Materials Unlimited was listed as one of nine places in an article entitled "Where to Find It" in the April issue of House Beautiful (p. 9):

" ... Reclaimed architectural materials in vast variety are available here, including Victorian marble-topped furniture, some sink tops, mantles, front and back bars and work surfaces for kitchen counters".

FOND FAREWELL to JIM WESTFALL!!!

As most of you know, Jim has been planning a move to Florida for some time. It was recently reported that he had actually made the move, but he was spotted soon after that in the Old Town restaurant, apparently unable to stay away! Go south if you must, Jim, but come back often - we will miss you, your incredible memory for Ypsilanti history, your corn casserole, and your ever-ready help with Foundation events. Come home whenever you can!

ANNUAL HISTORIC HOME TOUR:

The Heritage Foundation will enrich this year's Yesteryear Heritage Festival by again offering an historic home tour. Variety and individuality are the keynote features of this tour of five residences. Remember, this is not an interior decorating tour; rather, it is an historic preservation tour which offers a variety of architectural styles and adaptations of older buildings. This is a chance to get behind the scenes and see historic preservation in progress! The folks involved in the rehabilitation of some of Ypsilanti's fascinating old structures are people who have been willing to take the plunge, invest their money, imagination and time, do much of the work themselves, and create a living space out of buildings which have all too often gone uncared for and unappreciated.

These are this year's Home Tour buildings:

202 South Huron - William Fennel residence
510 Pearl - Jack Harris-Cliff Larkins residence
415 North Huron - Evangeline Lewis House
504 North Hamilton - Barry & Diane LaRue residence
23 East Cross - Gary & Carolyn McKeever apartment
and studio

DATE: Sunday, August 30

TIME: Noon to 5:00 p.m.

PRICE: \$3.00 adults \$2.00 senior citizens
\$1.50 children 13 and under

Guides are needed - volunteers call Jane Bird, 482-8989

NOTEWORTHY IMPROVEMENTS:

You all must remember what this town looked like this spring when the snow was gone - paper, litter, and debris everywhere. It was a mess! It was embarrassing. Most of us who own property must have gotten out and picked up our own fronts, because in the residential areas the town is looking up. But we also have to thank the Washtenaw County Jail crew, under the direction of the Sheriff's Department, for a clean-up in the business districts, especially Depot Town and downtown. Thanks!

The city crews have been at work in Prospect Park planting, we think, flowering crab and maple trees. It's looking great, and we foresee a bright future for our historic east side. Thanks!

The Historic East Side Association has also been at work getting ground ready for the flower beds that they again intend to plant in Prospect Park. This is another gesture to recreate Ypsilanti's wonderful past in a living present. Watch for the plantings, and if you want to get involved in a worthwhile project, call Christine Blinn, 483-3512.

YESTERYEAR HERITAGE FESTIVAL:

Plans are well underway for this third annual event. Most of us need a party, if only for the incentive it gives us to shift into high gear and make our own little corner of the community a more attractive part of town. Let's work to make Ypsilanti an even better place to live and work than it already is! And let's use the excuse of the upcoming 'party' as incentive - the Heritage Festival. If you wish to volunteer your services to any of the multitude of projects that make up the Festival program, call the Visitors and Convention Bureau, 482-4920, NOW!

Here are only some of dozens of exciting Festival events:

The Circus !!

The Parade, of course - a repeat of last year's great event that stirred so much pride in so many of us!

The Home Tour !!

Exciting new Bands and two Fife and Drum Corps, with a muster in Riverside Park!

Covered Wagons and a small Civil War Encampment in Riverside Park

Two Band Concerts & Three Days of Eating Out in the Park!

AND THAT'S ONLY A SAMPLE OF THE FUN !!!

The YPSILANTI PRESS' new, regular historic preservation page, with various items of interest to the community at large and the lovers of historic preservation in particular, is coming SOON! Don't miss this long needed, exciting new service to the community offered by our local press.

Exhibit and Sale of OLD YPSILANTI PHOTOGRAPHS (reproduced):

The Duffy Gallery in the Centennial Center Building at 124 Pearl is now having a sale of reproductions of Iba S. Bassett's photographs of old Ypsilanti scenes from the 1920s to about 1950. This unique exhibit is done in cooperation with the Ypsilanti Historical Museum and is on display at the Gallery through May 27. Call 481-0645 for further information.

HELPFUL HINTS:

What to do about an old drawer that smells musty inside? Try this: get some red cedar shavings from the lumberyard, take out the bottom drawer and, to its back, thumbtack a nylon stocking filled with the shavings. Spread them out thinly inside the stocking so the drawer will still shut all the way.

Drawers that stick? If possible, remove, dust, and rub sides and guides with a candle, paraffin, or drawer lubricant. If drawer won't open all the way, slip a light bulb on an extension cord into it for a few hours to shrink it (put bulb inside wire "trouble light" cage and watch to avoid scorching. Uneven floors can make drawers sluggish - check with a carpenter's level, prop up low end of bureau with wood wedge.

Dull brass hardware? The best way to polish brass hardware is to take it off the furniture first. If you can't, the safest polish is a bit of toothpaste (not the clear, gel type) on a cotton swab. Polish highlights, not edges, buff at once with dry cotton cloth.

(from earlier issues of House and Garden)

"Our preservation of the past is a responsibility to the future."

- Christopher Tunnard

Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation
NEWSLETTER

Editor: Jack Harris
510 Pearl
485-2155



Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation

SEPTEMBER 1981

NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, September 22, 1981 - 8:00 p.m.

PLACE: The HUTCHINSON HOUSE (High/Scope)
at the
corner of North River and East Forest

SPEAKER: Mr. Hennings, Energy Conservation Spokesperson
for the Detroit Edison Company

PROGRAM: Mr. Hennings will discuss the urgent problem of energy conservation in the old house. He is the Edison Company's representative in charge of this subject, and he has just returned from yet another seminar on the question of energy conservation in the older building. His lecture will last only thirty minutes, after which questions and discussion are expected.

Refreshments will be served in the elegant vestibule of the Hutchinson House. Come, bring a friend, and share in the exchange of information on this subject that affects us all.

HISTORIC HOME TOUR Growing Every Year!

More visitors than ever before - many of them from out of town - visited Ypsilanti's historic structures during the Heritage Festival. From the best count available, it is believed that over four hundred people went through most of the five homes on tour. Profit for the Foundation was well over that for last year's event. Ten per cent of that profit has already been contributed to the Heritage Festival Fund for 1982's Festival. From all reports, everything went smoothly and visitors were pleased with the handling of the tour. Home owners who faced the onslaught were generally pleased with the event itself and were especially grateful for the balmy sunny day, after so much rain. An especial thanks to them and to all of those who worked to make this important annual affair so successful. Again, we've shown that historic architecture is worth saving and using (& showing off!)

HERITAGE FESTIVAL A SUCCESS IN SPITE OF DISASTROUS WEATHER:

Singing "Don't Rain On My Parade" seemed to have no effect whatever on the inclement weather conditions during most of this year's Heritage Festival, August 28, 29 and 30. Still, with most reports in, participating groups did well. It seems evident that this annual event is growing in popularity and weather is not going to stop it. Over 100,000 people attended the festivities this year. Almost everywhere there was an increase in attendance. For example, the Antique Show in two days sold 100 more tickets than they did last year in three! Clearly, Ypsilanti has come through the fire, or at least the rain, on this one and proved that it has established an annual celebration that is bound to attract attention to all the positive elements in this community - its multitude of old and beautiful buildings, its friendly people, its many vital organizations.

Nat Edmunds reports that it's not too early to volunteer your services for next year. The Festival Committee is already looking for people to chair various events. Make a commitment now! Call the Visitors and Convention Bureau, 482-4920, today!

CIRCUS OFFERS NEW SHOW:

This year's Festival circus did 40% better than last and offered an almost entirely new show. Most people - especially those with children (some of whom were in their 50s!) - have expressed a strong desire to see the circus return next year.

LADIES LIBRARY OPENED:

All of Ypsilanti owes Tom Durant and family a hearty thanks for the Grand Opening of that newly restored building on North Huron Street, known in recent years as Sesquicentennial Hall. It was the scene of this year's elegant pre-Festival reception on Thursday evening, August 27.

What a superb - exemplary - job of restoration!!

HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ANNUAL DINNER MEETING:

Sunday, October 25

Masonic Temple, 6:00 pm

Ticket information from
Ann McCarthy, 483-2929
or the Museum, 482-4990

We invite
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
510 Pearl

NOTEWORTHY IMPROVEMENTS:

The Depot Town area continues to experience a renaissance: witness, for example, the new awnings over the fronts of River Art Works and the Health Emporium. These, coupled with the new canvas canopy over the picnic table in front of Kevin's Bakery, add immeasurably to the sense of a street scene, and street traffic is growing month by month in this part of Ypsilanti. Also noticeable are the improvements to the commercial buildings on River Street (the Millworks and its adjacent building) - new shops and new fronts brighten the scene. Finally, there is the new Miller's Ice Cream Parlor, directly across from Oliver's, which displays more character and class with its historic interior than most shops of its kind we have seen lately, thanks to the imagination and hard work of its owners, Rex and Sally Richie.

Michigan Avenue is also looking up. The awnings are up and a new optical business has opened in the long-shut building at the northeast corner of Huron and Michigan, thanks to owner Oscar Haab and the new tenants. And, as you may have noticed, they're painting up a storm along the avenue. First the old Cunningham Drug building at the northeast corner of Washington and Michigan got a total



NOTEWORTHY IMPROVEMENTS, con't.

facelift. Now work is underway on three more commercial buildings across from the Public Library, along the color guidelines suggested by Richard Macias, with whom the city has contracted for his expertise in the area of restoration. We can't wait for the full effect!

ECONOMIC RECOVERY TAX ACT
OF 1981: MAJOR BENEFIT TO
HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Washington, D.C., Aug. 20, 1981 - "The historic preservation movement has scored a major victory with the passage of new tax incentives for the rehabilitation of historic buildings," Michael L. Ainslie, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, said today. "Developers, landlords, main street merchants and investors who have never been involved with historic buildings will be seeing them as major investment opportunities. With these incentives, preservation is truly coming of age."

"The new 25% investment tax credit for certified rehabilitation of historic buildings for commercial and residential uses will cause a dramatic change of attitude toward preservation," said Ainslie.

Your editor has a summary of the tax incentives in this new act - if interested, call 485-2155, or call the Community Development department at City Hall.

Heritage Foundation BOARD

Meeting:

Thursday, October 1

7:30 p.m.

at VanBolt's, 410 N. Huron
(behind the new Gothic
picket fence and restored
porch railings!)

WELCOME to our newest members:

Carole Barnett
1302 Washtenaw, Ypsilanti

Virginia Snitgen
18828 Hillcrest, Birmingham

Tom and Anne Venner
103 N. Adams, Ypsilanti

Bob and Shari Strauss
1124 Grant, Ypsilanti

Raymond Durrance
1314 Minerva, Ann Arbor

SEEN BECKER-STACHLEWITZ
HOUSE LATELY?

If you haven't been by 601 W. Forest recently, it is worth the trip! Some of you will remember the Heritage Foundation meeting, dedicated to that building, held at Holy Trinity Chapel in November of 1977. Most of you know how precarious seemed the fate of "Stach" as it was affectionately called. Would it fall prey to the wrecker's ball? Would it burn? Or would it simply crumble into the earth? Well, your editor walked past it again the other day, delighted to see workmen laying the lawn like a fresh green carpet. Plants and wicker decorated the upper south bay window. And a young girl, probably a student, walked up the front steps and into her new 'home'. A other student, taken by the transformation, as was your editor, opened a conversation about the structure. She said, not knowing she was talking to an ardent preservationist, that "this building was a definite factor in my deciding to stay on at Eastern". She explained further that she believed there is a definite connection between student morale and the surrounding environment. Watching this building apparently had given her new hope, as it has done for many of us. There's life at the "Stach" - go see! P.S. If you've seen it by day, drive by in the evening when all the lights are on. Dreams sometimes do come true!



HOUSEHOLD HINTS:

Here are a few simple wicker maintenance tricks:

First take it out on the lawn or driveway and wash it thoroughly with mild suds. Hose it down and let the furniture (or basket) dry completely. This washing and soaking not only cleans the wicker but keeps it from getting brittle and the frames and joints from getting loose. Finally, go over the piece carefully, looking for breaks, and mend them with waterproof glue or wrappings of fine wire. If it seems necessary, apply a coat of clear protective sealer.

On washing windows:

Washing windows on a cloudy window is easier than doing it in full sunlight when the rinse water dries too quickly and tends to streak. Use vertical strokes with the cleaning agent on the inside of the window, and horizontal strokes on the outside, so you can quickly tell which side a smudge is on.

Two helpful checklists for preventative home maintenance:

1. Keeping Your Home in Shape: A Maintenance Audit for the Outside of Your Home

Available free from **N.B.I. Meeks**

Owens-Corning Fiberglass Corp.
Fiberglass Tower
Toledo, Ohio 43659

Starting with the roof and moving to the gutters, caulking, siding, masonry, paint, and foundation, the booklet identifies trouble spots and common weathering problems that can lead to costly repairs. A separate checklist helps you decide what corrective measures to take.

2. **Dura-Vent Corp.**
P.O. Box 2249

Redwood City, Calif. 94064, is offering a free checklist for owners of woodstoves and fireplaces to determine if they have been installed and are being maintained properly to prevent any fire hazard. With the answers you get from inspecting your chimney system, you will know whether the services of a trained chimney sweep or some other professional is required.

(All of the above from the September 1981 issue of House and Garden)

PAID ADVERTISING RATES for this Newsletter:

Full page	\$40	1/8 page	\$5	To place ads,
Half page	\$20	1/16 page	\$3	call 485-2155
1/4 page	\$10			



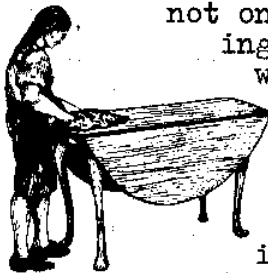
NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, November 24, 1981 - 7:30 p.m.

PLACE: The Hutchinson House (High/Scope)
at the corner of
North River and East Forest

SPEAKER: Mr. Martin Gillentine

PROGRAM: Mr. Gillentine, who has been in the upholstering and refinishing business here since 1943, has generously consented to share with Foundation members and guests his expertise on the subject of REFINISHING. For newer members of the community who may not know of Gillentine's long established reputation for quality work, let it be known that his name is well known,



not only in Ypsilanti, but in the surrounding area as well. Those who are familiar with the name will be delighted for this opportunity to obtain first-hand information about this subject.

Bring all those questions you have had stored up since your last refinishing project! If you have a refinishing job in the works now or on the back burner, this is the time to touch off that spark of inspiration to get the job done - and done right!

Members - have you a friend (or two or three) who would be interested in this subject? Bring them along, and assure them that they are very welcome, even if non-members. This is their chance to pick up valuable hints on an always-pesky subject and to enjoy the splendid Hutchinson House. With the refreshments which will be served, this should be one of the lovelier evenings of the on-coming holiday season.

NEW MEMBERS - We are delighted to welcome these new members to the Foundation:

Loren and Mary Kansen
(Standard Printing)
3265 Herby Rd.
Canton, Mi. 48188

Joe Mattinee
and
Henry Prebys
301 North Grove

Coming Soon!

The Annual Foundation CHRISTMAS PARTY!

Dues-paid members will soon receive invitations to this year's very festive occasion. It promises to be another beautiful event - plan to pay your dues at the November meeting to ensure that your invitation will be in the mail!



NOTEWORTHY IMPROVEMENTS:

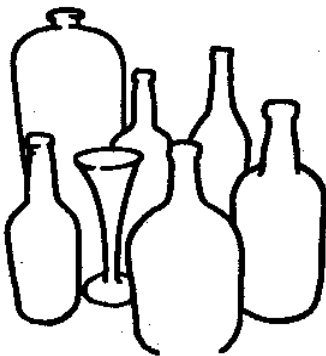
Commercial buildings at two major downtown intersections are sporting handsome new paint jobs - Beneficial Finance, at Michigan and Huron, and the Tap Room at Michigan and Washington. Take time to admire the way the new colors highlight the architectural details on the upper stories of these Italianate structures.

Notice also the welcome new colors on Jim and Suzanne Palasek's house at 516 North Adams ...

and the handsome restored porch railings, both first & second floors, on Jane and John Van Bolt's Carpenter Gothic house at 410 N. Huron - a house now surrounded by a most appropriate Gothic-style fence.

HANDY HINTS:

If you have an old kerosene lamp that is missing any of its parts, write to Tye Schwalbe, old lamp restorer, care of Squaw Alley Hardware, Lamp Parts, Glass and Antiques 106 W. Water St., Naperville, Ill. 60540
Send \$1 for hard-to-find parts catalog.



If you have calcium deposits or lime scale you would like to remove from glassware, tea pots, coffee makers, humidifiers, toilets, sinks and tubs, or rust stains from cement, stucco, porcelain, chrome and metals, try CLR (the letters stand for calcium, lime and rust). Since this product contains phosphoric acid and glycolic acid, it should not be used on marble, aluminum or painted or glazed surfaces. A 32-oz. plastic bottle costs \$3.95, plus \$2 shipping, from Jamie Industries, 6600 N. Lincoln, Lincolnwood, Ill. 60645.

Heritage Foundation BOARD Meeting:

Thursday, Dec. 3
7:30 p.m.
at Bill Nickels,
311 N. Wallace

This is our Annual Meeting

The Nominating Committee, chaired by John Van Bolt, will offer a slate of Board candidates. Nominations from the floor will also be in order.

DUES are Due !!
DUE !!
DUE !!

Mary Warner will be most happy to accept your

ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORY

"Architecture is to be regarded by us with the most serious thought. We may live without her, and worship without her, but we cannot remember without her. How cold is all history, how lifeless all imagery, compared to that which the living nation writes, and the uncorrupted marble bears! --- how many pages of doubtful record might we not often spare, for a few stones left one upon another! The ambition of the old Babel builders was well directed for this world: there are but two strong conquerors of the forgetfulness of men. Poetry and Architecture; and the latter in some sort includes the former, and is mightier in its reality: it is well to have, not only what men have thought and felt, but what their hands have handled, and their strength wrought, and their eyes beheld, all the days of their life."

- John Ruskin

CHANGES IN HISTORIC PRESERVATION AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL:

Although not yet fully implemented, it seems clear that the federal government is in the process of drastically reducing its involvement in historic preservation. The following notes, gleaned from a directive issued by the U.S. Department of the Interior and published in the October issue of Preservation News, perhaps summarize the high (or low) points:

1. the federal government intends to "assure the future of preservation outside the federal budgetary process; and to restore stewardship responsibilities to appropriate levels of government". What this means for the National Trust, for example, is the elimination of its annual appropriation from the Interior Department (currently \$4.7 million); instead, a one-time endowment (unspecified amount) would be made available.
2. the government intends to "restore to state and local governments, without federal intervention, regulatory responsibilities". Some preservationists fear, however, that this will weaken their power, when the national unit does not stand behind them.
3. the government will "fulfill departmental stewardship responsibilities for preservation of non-federally owned historic properties of national landmark significance" only.
4. the government intends to encourage "private investment in the preservation of historic buildings ... through incentive in the tax system". For example, the new provisions will provide for a 15% investment tax credit (ITC) for "substantial rehabilitation" of commercial buildings at least 30 years old, a 20% ITC for commercial buildings at least 40 years old, and a 25% ITC for certified rehabilitation of historic buildings used for commercial and residential rental purposes. However, the new law repeals, among other things, the five-year amortization provision. The National Trust will work to amend this last provision in subsequent legislation.

BULLETIN! Since the above was published in Preservation News, a national historic preservation bill, funding, among other offices, the National Trust and the State Historic Preservation Offices, has been passed by Congress but has not been signed by the President. Apparently, the Congress believes that federal involvement in preservation should continue, in spite of the White House's proposed cuts. Whether the executive branch will veto the bill or reverse itself and sign it, remains to be seen. But for such offices as the Michigan State History Division in Lansing, an office which has been invaluable to preservationists in Ypsilanti, passage of the bill is crucial.

FARMERS' MARKET has NEW HOURS:

The Ypsilanti Indoor Farmers' Market, housed in the old Freight House in Depot Town, will be open on Friday evenings from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. now through Christmas. This is, of course, in addition to the Wednesday and Saturday hours of 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. You're missing a treat if you're doing all your shopping at the supermarket - nice people, friendly fellow customers, and some

AT THE MUSEUM:

The Annual Community-Wide Christmas Party will be held Sunday, Dec. 13
2:00 to 5:00 p.m.
at the Museum. Refreshments will be served and the Lutheran Children's Choir will sing. Join the celebration!

Now on DISPLAY: a recent acquisition, the beautiful

YPSILANTI VISUAL ARTISTS' GUILD:

For Your Viewing Pleasure:

Ypsilanti's Visual Artists' Guild will be sponsoring & organizing the Holiday Artists' Market, to be held in the Depot Town Freight House (Farmers' Market Bldg) on Sunday, Dec. 6, 11:00 am-7:00 pm.

Thirty artists will be invited to display their works. Speciality items, such as wooden toys, rag dolls, and hand-painted Christmas ornaments will be offered at affordable prices.

For Your Listening Pleasure:

A jazz pianist and choral groups will add to the festivities.

For Your Tasting Pleasure:

The coffee shop will be serving holiday cookies, along with hot cider and coffee.

NEW FOUNDATION PROJECT:

The Mon. Nov. 9 edition of the Ann Arbor News carried a new feature - a list of properties in the Ypsilanti Historic District which have been noticeably improved in recent weeks. It's the Foundation's way of saying "Thanks!" to those property owners who are making this town a better place to live!

DETROIT BUSINESS COMBINES
OLD AND NEW:

Next time you're in Detroit, be sure to pay a visit to Greektown and while there take a look at the amazing project known as Trappers Alley, which makes use of an old brick tannery and warehouse building. Even the no longer functional wooden water tower and brick smokestack have been retained. As a dramatic entryway the architects have built a geometrical steel-frame-supported roof of 867 panes of glass. Most important lesson for Ypsilanti and its large historic district is the point of view taken by the architectural firm: "We had to keep in mind that .. whatever we did with the buildings .. the final product had to be harmonious with existing Greektown. In spite of the vast amount of space we were dealing with, we couldn't allow it to overwhelm or even overshadow the character of the neighborhood". The lesson is clear: in older neighborhoods we need sensitive planners who know that old and new can work together to the enhancement of both.

Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation NEWSLETTER

Editor: Jack Harris, 510 Pearl, 485-2155





NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, January 26, 1982 - 7:30 p.m.

PLACE: The Hutchinson House (High/Scope)
at the corner of
North River and East Forest

SPEAKER: Henry (Hank) Prebys, Director of Design & Installations for the Edison Institute (Greenfield Village and the Henry Ford Museum)

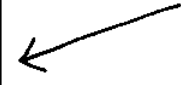
PROGRAM: Hank Prebys is already a familiar face to many Heritage Foundation members, for he has been attending meetings for some time now and is one of our newest members. A veteran of the Navy and a graduate of Indiana University, he is a specialist in the 19th Century (in which case where else in the area should he want to live but Ypsilanti?). He is particularly interested in the furniture of the period, and we hope that in the future we can tap him again for a talk on that subject. For this occasion, however, we thought it would be most fascinating to hear directly from an insider at Greenfield Village and the Henry Ford Museum about the changes in the works there. He will present an informal program, with slides, about these changes-in-progress and will include his own personal point of view on the subject. Since he expects his program to last only about forty minutes, there will be ample time for questions. We look forward to this opportunity to learn more about this important resource so near Ypsilanti. Please spread the word among those you meet - urge them to join us.

Christine Blinn is still our Refreshments Hostess, so be assured that you will not be turned out into the cold without hot coffee or tea and some luscious goodies.

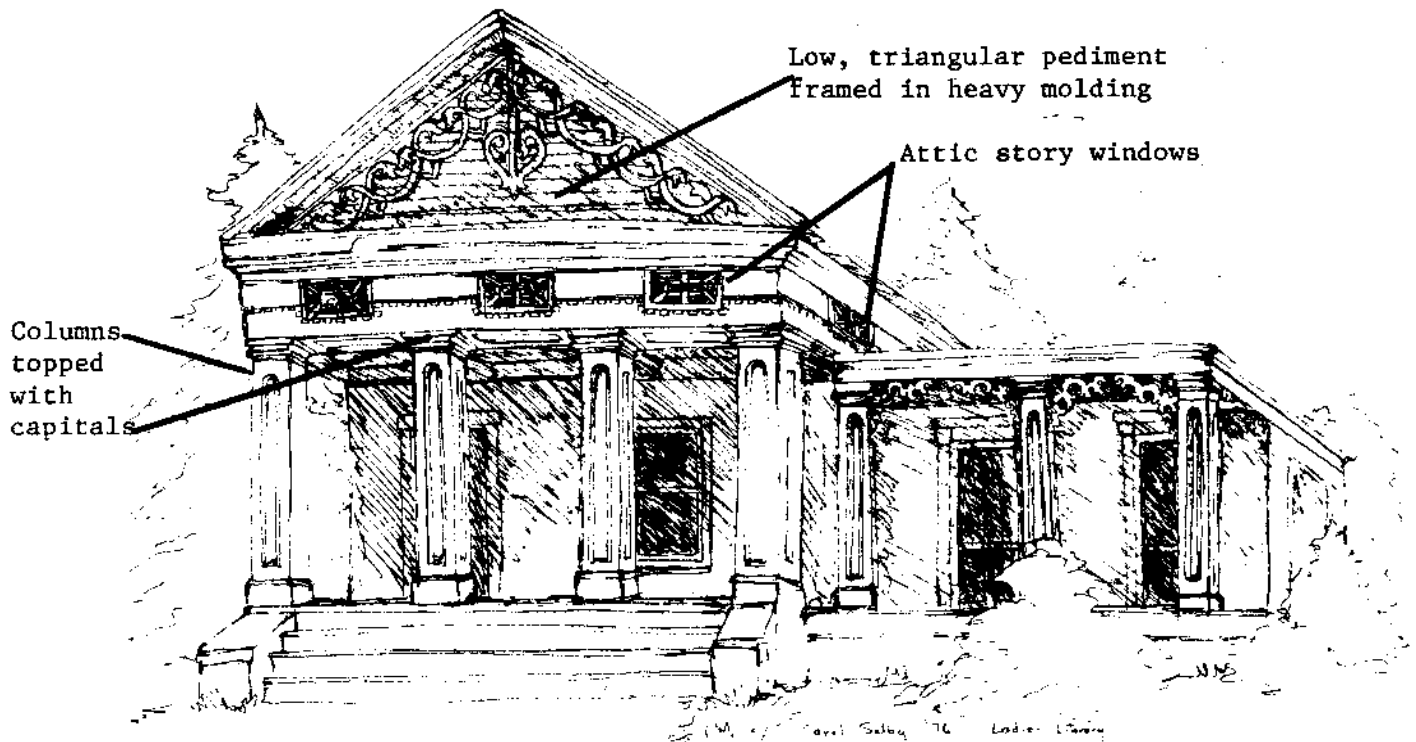
PUBLIC MEETING ON TOWNER HOUSE - February 9

The Historic District Commission has scheduled, as required by law, a public meeting on the proposed demolition of the Towner House at 303 North Huron. Citizens will find a formal notice of the meeting announced in the local press. Anyone interested in expressing his or her views on the subject should plan to attend:

Tuesday, February 9
7:00 p.m.
City Hall, Michigan Ave. entrance



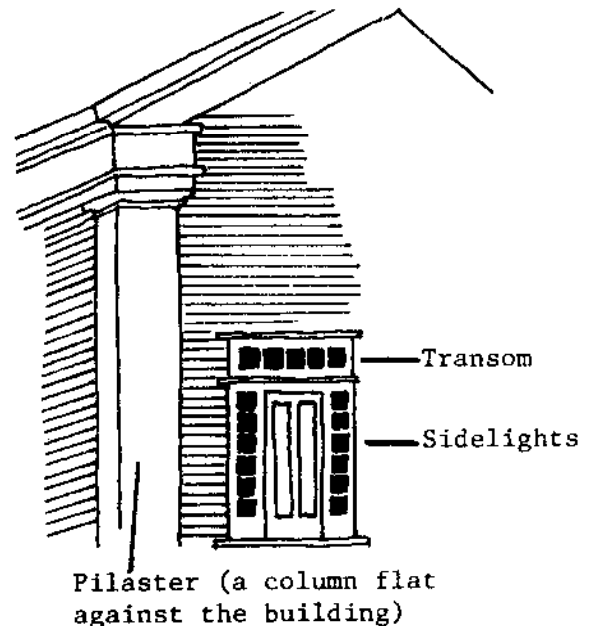
The following is the first of five descriptions of architectural styles commonly found in Ypsilanti. They are from a primer of historic architecture developed by Jerry Fouchey and Jane Bird for the Ypsilanti Public Schools Local History Project.



GREEK REVIVAL - 1820-1860

- Typical features:
- Low triangular pediments framed in heavy molding
 - Columns and pilasters topped with capitals
 - Returned cornices
 - Attic story windows
 - Doors framed with transoms and sidelights
 - Formal arrangement of doors and windows

The Greek Revival style of architecture was a revival (a bringing back) of the design of the ancient Greek temples. During the early years of our country, when some people got rich enough to build something better than log cabins, the Greek Revival style became very popular in both simple and elegant versions. The American people admired very much the democratic ideals of ancient Greece. In the early 1800s the Greek people fought a war for independence which reminded many Americans of our own Revolutionary War. Our city is named after Demetrius Ypsilanti, who was the hero of that Greek war for independence.



News from the FOUNDATION BOARD:

New Board members elected at the November general membership meeting are: Lis Knibbe
David Davis

New officers elected at the December Board meeting are: Jack Harris, President
Bill Nickels, Vice-President

Nathalie Edmunds resigned from the Board early in January. Our sincerest thanks to her for her long service to the Foundation.

Current Board members are:

Jane Bird	482-8989
Dave Davis	482-2393
Oscar Haab	inactive
Jack Harris	485-2155
Lis Knibbe	483-6653
Bill Nickels	483-8896
Don Randazzo	482-6144
Bruce Rankin	995-2516
Jane Van Bolt	483-6972
Mary Warner	482-8217
Richard Wood	483-8005

A BEAUTY SECRET?

It may be none of your editor's business, but have you seen the tiny ladies' lingerie and accessories shop that has opened on North Huron just south of Detroit Edison? Called A Beauty Secret, the business opened last June. The owners, Christina Cantu & Marianne Szalega, also have a Hair Studio on the lower level, where women AND men can get personalized service in haircutting. Even if you have nothing in mind to buy, just step inside to see not only the quality of the merchandise but also the delightfully imaginative atmosphere these two people have created: a terrazzo floor rescued from layers of carpeting, fresh paint everywhere - even to the electrical outlets - in the most charming combinations of rainbow colors, ribbons and mirrors and colorful fabrics, all employed with such originality! SHAME ON YOU, if you only shop in the Malls and the Marts. A Beauty Secret is open Mon. thru Fri. 10:00-5:00, Sat. 10:00-2:00. (P.S. - the building itself, owned by Mr. Oscar Haab (who has been "most supportive" of the tenants) is itself worth study: tiled roof, decorative brackets, and imaginative brickwork. Give these girls your business and watch for a facade face-lift in the spring!

WELCOME to these New Members!

Grace Sweeney & Pete Murdock
504 North River

Claudia Fletcher
1965 West Michigan

Karen Herche
817 West Liberty
Ann Arbor

Foundation BOARD MEMBERS please note:

Because of conflicts, the next Board meeting will be Wednesday, Feb. 10 at Birds'.

Mark your calendar now!

Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation NEWSLETTER
Editor: Jack Harris, 510 Pearl, 485-2155

We invite
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1982 Ypsilanti YESTERYEAR HERITAGE FESTIVAL !!

The Chamber of Commerce reports that the General Committee of the Festival will begin meeting on a weekly basis in about two weeks. Meetings are OPEN and you are encouraged to attend the Friday afternoon sessions. Call 482-4920 for further information.

ARSON !!!!!!!!!!!

The threat of arson is always with us, and it is an especial concern of those who care about old buildings. The Economics Building, the oldest building on the University of Michigan campus, is the most recent local victim of this fastest-growing crime in America. For an excellent discussion on the subject, see the lead article in the March/April 1981 issue of HISTORIC PRESERVATION, available from the Foundation library (482-8989). Included is a brief outline of suggestions on "How to Fight Arson", which includes addresses for sources of further information.

NOTEWORTHY IMPROVEMENTS:

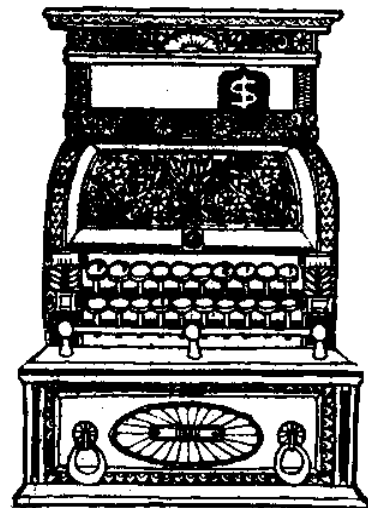
In the face of a genuine full-scale recession, Depot Town continues to accelerate the pace of its improvements. Note, for example, the new pizzeria in the old Weber Drug location. Karl and Paula Palen are veterans in the pizza business, & don't expect anything but success. Right now the business will be take-out only, but they ultimately hope to have up-front tables. What a popular place that could become!

Note, also, the face-lift in the works at B & D Plumbing at the Cross Street bridge. Forbes' Cleaners, returning to Depot Town after a ten-year absence, are opening in the building - one more convenience for the locals! New signage is in the works and, in fact, a face-lift for the entire front is in progress. Although itself not an historic building, every improvement that coordinates with the historic character of the entire Historic District increases our sense of community pride.

Have you noticed a general improvement on South Huron as you approach the downtown area from the south? The entire streetscape continues to improve in appearance because of the work of a number of property owners. Note, in particular, 114 S. Huron - ("when comes such another?" as Mark Anthony said of Caesar) - an entire facade renovation.

"HISTORIC YPSILANTI"
license plates

as well as reproduction photographs of historic Ypsilanti buildings, Ypsilanti T-shirts, and other good gift items are still available at the Chamber of Commerce, 11 North Adams. Please spread the word about the availability of the license plates in particular, because they are such a handsome way to say that we're proud to live in Ypsilanti!



DUES are due !!!



NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 1982

PLACE: The Hutchinson House (High/Scope)
at the corner of
North River and East Forest

SPEAKER: Mr. Tom Durant

PROGRAM: "Rescuing the Old Library"

Mr. Durant, contractor for the restoration of Old Town Hall, will present a show-and-tell program - slides and discussion - of the restoration and renovation of the old library (Sesquicentennial Hall) which he purchased from the City several years ago. Once the home of Mary Ann Starkweather, Ypsilanti's best known benefactress, this majestic Italianate building at the foot of Washtenaw along North Huron Street had been vacant for many years, after having served the community in many capacities, including library and offices for the Greek Theatre and the sesquicentennial celebration. Both physically and spiritually, it stands at the center of Ypsilanti's history.

Don't miss this opportunity to hear and see, first hand, the story of how this important building came alive again, from the first urgent repairs to the present leasing of the office space that is now underway.

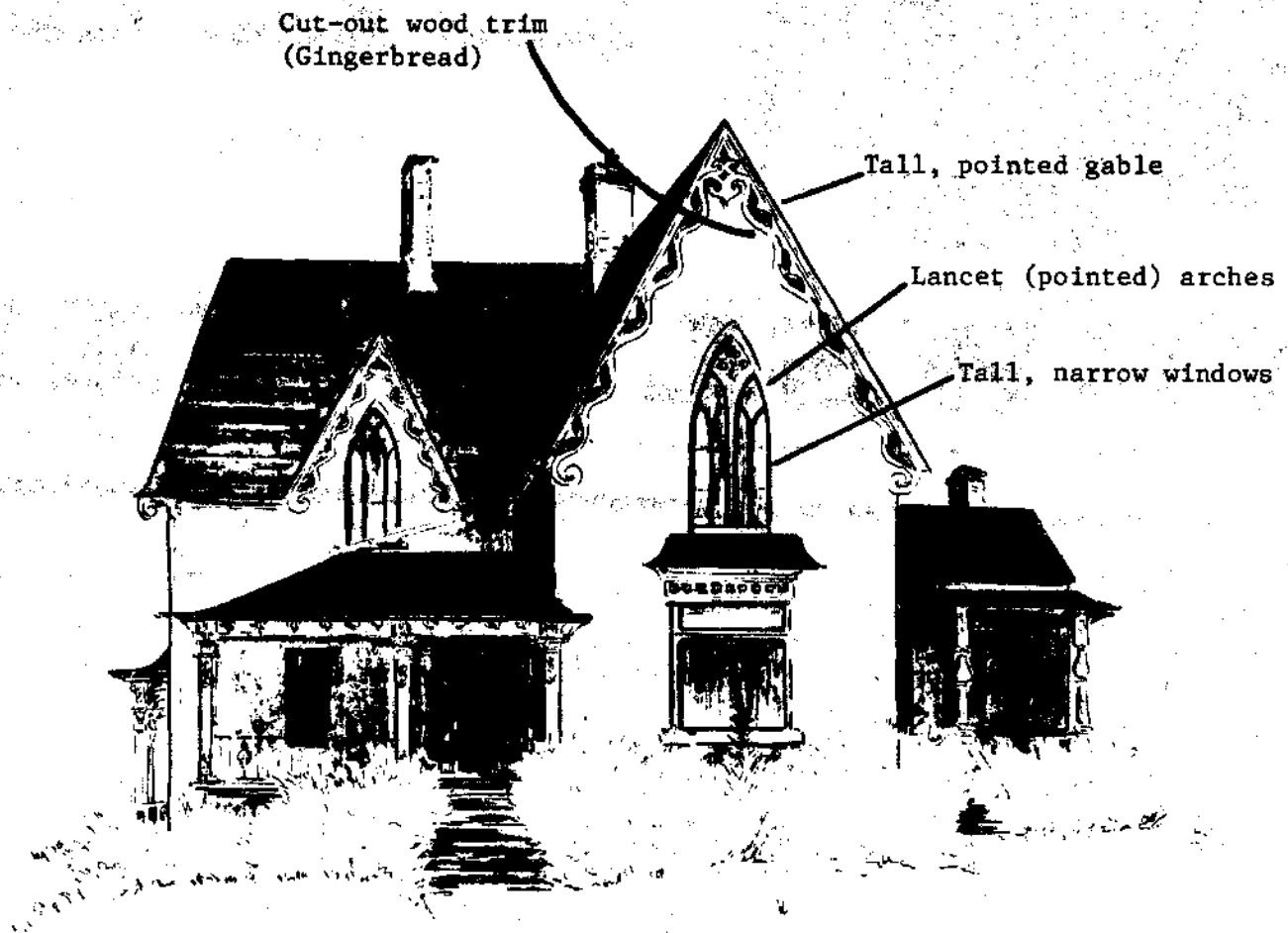
REFRESHMENTS provided, of course!

NEW MEMBERS:

Membership continues to grow. If you are uncertain as to whether you are paid up for this year, please call either Mary Warner (482-8217) or Jack Harris (485-2155). We are delighted to WELCOME these new paid up members:

Dale & Sandy Hooker	Tom Durant	Scott Kunst
836 N. Mansfield	10 Clubview	318 N. Park

The following is the second of five descriptions of architectural styles commonly found in Ypsilanti. They are from a primer of historic architecture developed by Jerry Fouchey and Jane Bird for the Ypsilanti Public Schools Local History Project.



GOTHIC REVIVAL - 1830-1875

Typical features: Tall, pointed gables
Tall, narrow windows
Lancet (pointed) arches
Cut-out wood trim (Gingerbread),
especially in the gables



Trefoil



Quatrefoil

The Gothic Revival style of architecture was meant to bring back (to revive) the magnificent Gothic style used on many buildings in medieval Europe. Maybe you have seen pictures of Gothic cathedrals like Notre-Dame in Paris, France. These structures were built very tall, with many pointed gables and tall narrow windows which were sometimes topped with a lancet (pointed) arch. There was often a lot of decorative woodwork cut-out in medieval designs such as trefoils and quatrefoils.

The Ypsilanti Community History Project continues its efforts to enrich social studies instruction in the public schools with local history sources. Project Facilitator and Heritage Foundation member, Jerry Fouchey, is conducting historic walking tours with students from Ardis and Chapelle Elementary Schools. These tours are preceded by instruction on historic preservation and styles of architecture in Ypsilanti using materials developed with the help of Jane Bird and the Foundation Calendar pictures. This effort is, hopefully, developing the preservationists of the future.

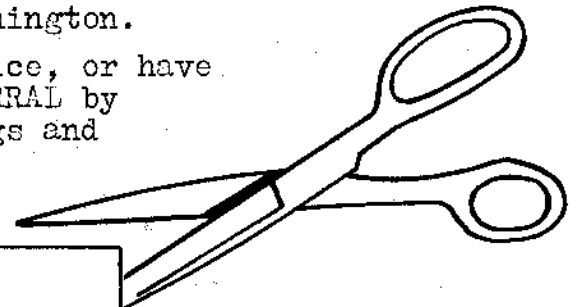
Heritage Foundation offers a New Service - REHAB REFERRAL !

HELP !! We all need it sometimes and can give it at other times. The new Foundation REHAB REFERRAL is a way for us to help each other as we repair, rehab and restore our structures, historic or otherwise - to help those who need assistance find those who can give it.

The REFERRAL will include a list of contractors and tradespeople who have successfully completed work on buildings in Ypsilanti. The list will be made up of names provided by you. By filling out a REFERRAL card and returning it, you will help others find the local professionals who are sensitive to the special needs of historic buildings and whose level of workmanship is high on whatever project they undertake.

The REFERRAL will also include a list of do-it-yourselfers who have solved some of the often perplexing problems we all encounter as we work. If you have successfully tackled a problem and are willing to share your experience, please fill out the REFERRAL card and return it at the next meeting or mail it to 301 N. Washington.

When you need a contractor, some helpful advice, or have information to share, contact the REHAB REFERRAL by calling Lis Knibbe at 483-6654 in the evenings and on weekends. If we have the information you need we'll be happy to share it.



REHAB REFERRAL

Your Name _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Type of work _____

Name of Contractor or Tradesperson (Yourself?) _____

Would you use this person again? Yes No

Comments: _____

Are you willing to be contacted by a prospective user concerning your experience? Yes No

Cut out this
card and mail
to:

Lis Knibbe
301 N. Washington
Ypsilanti, Mi.

48197

HOME TOUR PLANS UNDERWAY

Planning for the 1982 Annual Historic Home Tour, sponsored by the Foundation, got underway last month. Members of the committee are Jane Bird, chair, Bill Nickels, Jack Harris, Mary Warner, Don Randazzo, Hank Prebys, Joe Mattimoe, Bill Fennel, Jane Van Bolt, and Mary Hudspeath, representative from Preservation Eastern. Chief guides are already committed and buildings are being selected. It is already certain that a new area of this ancient borough will be well represented this year! Watch for details in the May Newsletter. If you are interested in serving on this important event, please call Jane Bird at 482-8989.



MARIGOLD SALE CHAIRMEN MAKE PLANS:



Dick Warner and Bill Fennel, Co-Chairmen of the Third Annual Marigold Sale, sponsored by the Foundation, have set the date for the sale as Saturday, May 15. As in the past, plants will be top quality and prices will be competitive-reasonable. This is a chance to support the Foundation and beautify Ypsilanti in one fell swoop. Remind your neighbors to put the date on their calendars and get ready for the Big Sale on the green on the north side of Old Town Hall, at the corner of N. Huron and Cross. Work volunteers call Dick (482-8217) or Bill (482-1071). And DON'T FORGET THAT DATE !!!

COMING ATTRACTION at the May 25 meeting - a New Event for the Foundation!

BUFFET POT LUCK SUPPER
at the Ladies Literary Club

6:30 p.m.

followed by the annual presentation of
HISTORIC STRUCTURE MARKERS

Anyone wishing to attend, member or non-member, call Chris Blinn, 483-3512

This should prove to be a very UP social event for Ypsilanti! Be sure to join us ... let's see, will the lilacs be in bloom, the tulips, the daffodils ... ? Whoopee!! Let it come on!!!

RECENT HISTORIC DISTRICT DECISIONS OF NOTE:

1. Delay of decision on demolition permit for the Towner House, 303 N. Huron, at the request of the owner. The Commission is now scheduled to act upon the permit at its May 4 meeting.
2. Although an original design for awnings on the front of Aubree's (Alibi) was rejected by the Commission as 'inappropriate', a second plan, recommended to the owners by Carolyn McKeever, was unanimously approved. Note how the lines of the canopy over the door reflect the shape of the lintels over the upper windows. The present design seems an integral part of the structure and the colors are perfect. The owners are delighted, especially since they have found the earliest known photograph of the building sporting very similar stripped awnings! Congratulations, Aubree's!!
3. At the Edison Company on North Huron Street, the Building Inspection Department stopped installation of an exterior storm-window facade, a project underway without a permit. When a permit for the work did reach the Commission, discussion with representatives of Edison - who were very cooperative - led to installation of the storms on the inside of the original windows, thus preserving the integrity of this important historic business facade.
4. The Commission approved the permit for a sign over Forbes Cleaners in the B & D Plumbing building just east of the Cross Street bridge. Also approved were new (appropriate) doors. A general facade improvement for that structure is underway.
5. Commission denial of the proposed aluminum-and-plastic, lighted-from-within, sign for H & R Block at Michigan and Washington has resulted in the simple, white block letters you see there now.

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION NOW INCLUDES
TRAINED ARCHITECT

Lis Knibbe, 301 N. Washington, recently appointed as the seventh member of the Historic District Commission, has master's degrees in both architecture and urban planning. She has also had 3½ years of experience with a wide range of preservation problems in both architecture and planning. She is currently employed at Preservation Urban Design, Inc. in Ann Arbor. This kind of expertise usually comes only to a community rich enough to hire such services; the Commission members, however, serve without pay. Lis, as a home owner in the Historic District, cares about Ypsilanti. Her interest in the Commission was manifested in her regular attendance at Commission meetings for several months before the recent approval by City Council of her recommendation by Mayor Goodman.

NEW CITY MANAGER !

As everyone knows by now, Ypsilanti's new City Manager HAS ARRIVED !

Welcome, Van Whaler and family - we hope you find this town to your liking!

RIVERSIDE PARK

Lighted walkways in Riverside Park for nighttime strolling? That's just one of the projected improvements scheduled to be installed by early summer in the park. This is just the beginning of a more than \$200,000 grant program to improve this important resource.

Members Omer and Elsie Robbins, returned to Michigan after a trial residency in Rhode Island, report that they have built a brick salt box house east of Manchester at 8200 Ernst Road. They love the house and we love having them back!

NATIONAL TRUST ANNOUNCES MAJOR CUTBACKS AND CAMPAIGN AGAINST
ADMINISTRATION HISTORIC PRESERVATION POLICIES:

It is of great importance to preservationists in Ypsilanti as elsewhere to know that at a December 17, 1981 meeting Secretary of the Interior James Watt told Trust management there would be zero funding for the National Trust and the states' historic preservation programs which support National Register of Historic Places. Especially since preservation has proven itself to be a practical solution to problems of unemployment, poor housing, energy conservation, blighted and depressed inner-cities and small towns, the Trust has decided to launch an aggressive campaign against current preservation policies of the Administration, particularly the Department of the Interior.

The Historic Preservation Fund was established by Congress in 1976 with income from fees charged for off-shore oil leases. The Fund provides matching grants to the National Trust, and to all 50 states and U.S. territories to survey districts, buildings and sites for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, as well as to educate and inform the public. Where the income from these oil lease fees would go in the future, if indeed collected, is uncertain. Ironically, Mr. Watt is in trouble with Congress for using government money to throw two Christmas receptions at historic Arlington House in Arlington National Cemetery! "Having your cake ... "



QUILT STORAGE

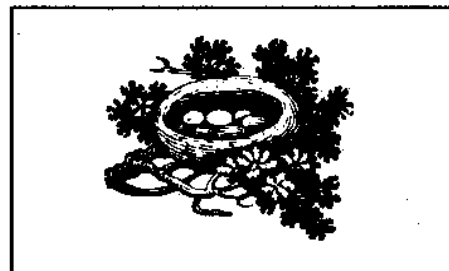
Q. Please tell me how I should store a lovely old family quilt that was recently given to me by my grandmother. This quilt has never been laundered and really doesn't need it. It is about 60 years old and in excellent condition. Mrs. G.B. Hattie

A. Storing quilts is actually very simple. Fold it loosely, using tissue (acid-free) or rolled pieces of old sheets or pillow cases along the folds, then wrap the quilt in either a clean sheet or large pillowcase. Never place quilts in plastic bags, which trap moisture. Moreover, refold the quilt every few months, thus keeping the fabric from splitting along the creases. Store it in a dark, dry place—away from sunlight. An effective method to repel insects in the storage area is to include moth flakes, as long as they do not touch the fabric.

... from Colonial Homes

Time to be thinking about this year's FESTIVAL !!

Anyone interested in working on any phase of Festival activities, call Nat Edmunds at 482-5218 or drop in at any or all of the weekly Festival meetings on Fridays at 3:30 at the Chamber of Commerce, 11 North Adams. Your ideas & enthusiasm are needed !!



A core of interested and concerned people are meeting to discuss new uses for the Towner House, particularly the proposal offered by the Historical Society for the establishment of a childrens' museum in the house.

Interested in offering your ideas and help? Call either
Bill Edmunds 482-5218
or
Jerry Fouchey 482-1998

NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, May 25, 1982 - 6:30 p.m.
PLACE: LADIES' LITERARY CLUB, 218 North Washington
NEW EVENT: 1st Annual Awards Banquet - Pot Luck Style
PROGRAM: Historic Structure Marker Awards

Are you ready for something NEW in this old organization? Our program chairperson, Christine Blinn, has designed and organized just that - a pot luck dinner for the May meeting at which Historic Structure markers are traditionally awarded. In the past our program for this meeting has included a speaker. In the spirit of informality and celebration, we have dispensed with that part of the program. To add to the sense of occasion, we have rented the Ladies' Literary Club, probably the most elegant place in Ypsilanti to hold such a banquet.

The membership list will be used to call and arrange for a variety of dishes. If for any reason you have not been called - WHETHER YOU ARE A MEMBER OR NOT - and you wish to attend this special event, simply give Christine a call at 483-3512.

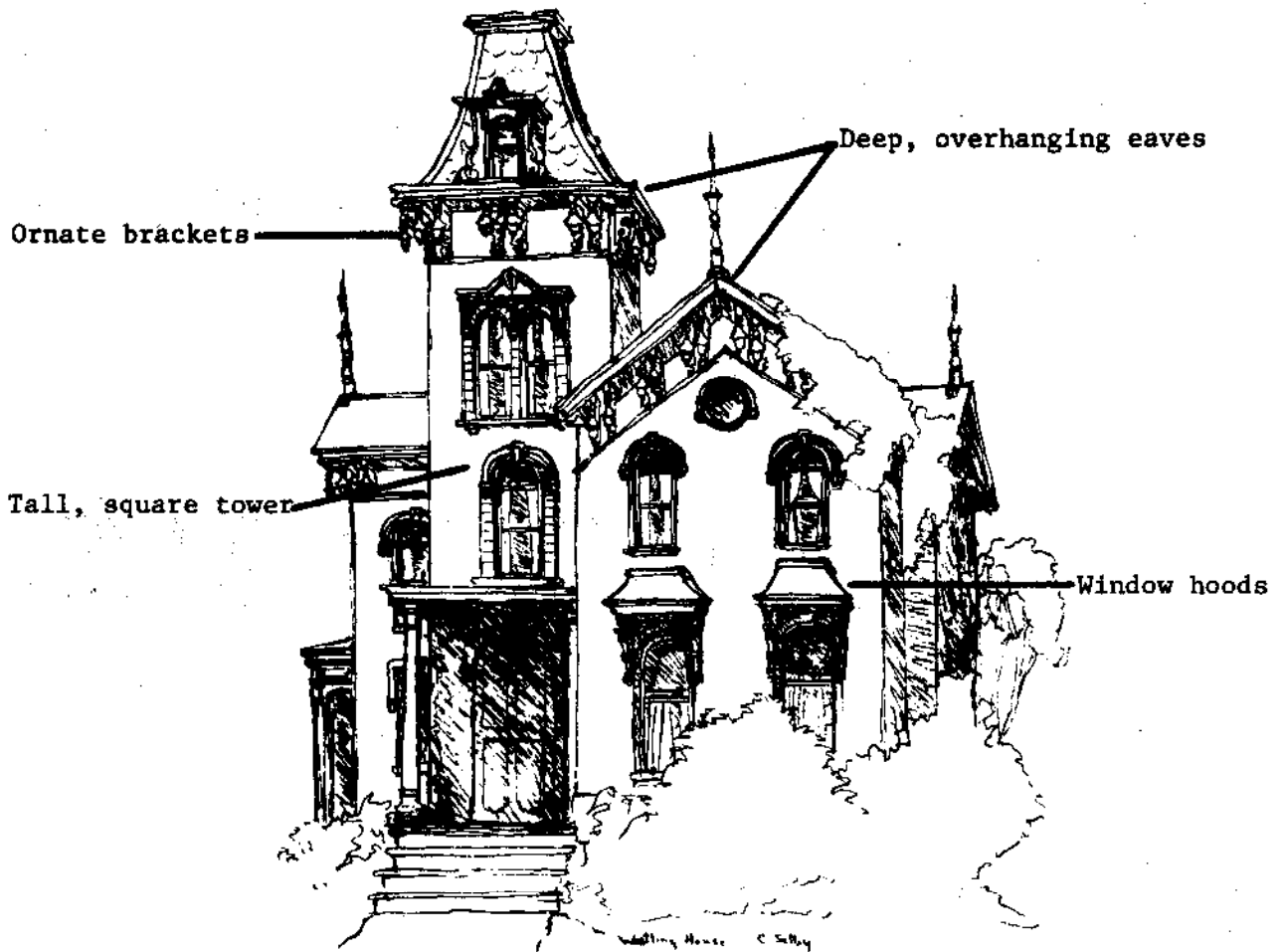
Remember, dinner at 6:30 - a social gathering where everyone can exchange views about what's happening right now in our town. Join us !

Marker recipients are NOT, of course, expected to bring a dish, since they are our guests !



The owners of the following buildings will be awarded Historic Structure Markers and will be our very special GUESTS OF HONOR:

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Durant	The Ladies' Library, 130 North Huron
John Talbot	Becker-Stachlewitz House, 601 West Forest
Mr. Richard Hergott	305 Maple
Joe Mattimoe and Hank Prebys	301 North Grove
Mr. Jerry Elmer	Centennial Center, 124 Pearl
John and Jane Van Bolt	410 North Huron



ITALIANATE - 1840-1885

Typical features: Cupola or square observatory often on the roof
 Deep, overhanging eaves
 Ornate brackets, sometimes in pairs
 Tall, slender windows, often rounded at the top
 and sometimes capped with ornate hoods

The Italianate style of architecture was designed to look like country houses in Italy. Roofs are sometimes flat or low-pitched and hipped, sometimes gabled, but always with deep overhanging eaves. These deep overhanging eaves are supported by prominent brackets which sometimes come in pairs. Often there is a cupola or observatory atop the roof. Windows are tall and slender, often with rounded tops and sometimes capped with ornate hoods. Italianate houses sometimes have tall, square towers and are then called Italian Villa style.

Lis Knibbe, a member of the city's Historic District Commission, and Kevin McDonough, a Eastern Michigan University student intern in the city's Community Development Department, recently attended a conference in Chicago titled "Preservation Tax Incentives."

The conference, sponsored by the National Park Service and the National Trust for Historic Preservation, was held to explain newly-created financial incentives for the restoration of historic properties.

WELCOME to these new members:

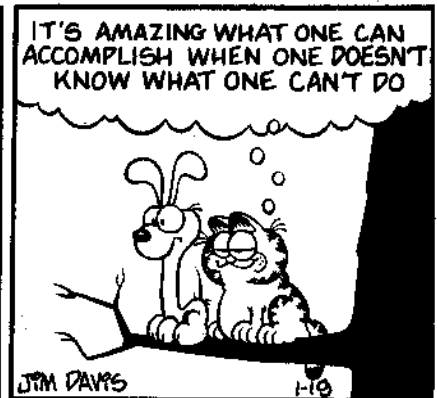
Marie Schlesinger
712 Pearl

Luanne and Howard Booth
7 North Normal

John Van Bolt, attorney for both the Heritage Foundation and the Historic District Commission, and Jane Bird attended the recent meeting of the Michigan Historic District Network at Greenmead Historical Village in Livonia.

"COMPANY'S COMING!!!" - Citywide Clean-up and Beautification Underway:

Flossie Bennett has spearheaded a drive to clean up this much used and abused old town. The Mayor's Beautification Committee, headed by Flossie and manned by the Council on Aging, has work well underway to spruce things up. Planters have been placed in the downtown area and already they are planted with Foundation marigolds, thanks to this determined group of senior citizens. Thanks, folks! Now, everybody help!!



TOWNER HOUSE Progress Report:

A further thirty-day extension on the demolition permit was recently granted by the Historic District Commission. This was done at the request of the Presbyterian Church in order to give the Children's Museum group more time to establish a time schedule for the repair and restoration of the building. Judy White, co-chair, feels assured that they will meet the deadline and that the museum project will 'fly'.

HERITAGE FOUNDATION Floats:

Bill Nickels is in charge of our floats again this year, both for the July 4th parade and for Heritage Festival. Call Bill at 483-8896 if you have ideas or can offer help!

MARIGOLD SALE Success Story:

As we go to press, Dick Warner, co-chair, reports that approximately 150 advance orders have been placed for marigolds, impatiens and petunias. The Big Sale, Sat. May 15, should be a resounding success, thanks to Dick and Bill Fennel, co-chair, and all the volunteers!

CONGRATULATIONS To Nat Edmunds and Jane Bird !!!

It's about time those two were given some sort of formal recognition. Nat, as you know, has just been awarded the Distinguished Service Award by the Ypsilanti Area Chamber of Commerce. Both Jane and Nat were among eleven women of the Ypsilanti area honored at a banquet at Hoyt Conference Center, May 7, as Ypsilanti's Leading Ladies. The event was engineered by Tom Dodd and Bonni Rosen-Fine and sponsored by the Ypsilanti Players. At least one hundred people attended this long-overdue event. Again, congratulations, ladies, for service and dedication.

REHAB REFERRAL:

This new service of the Foundation will be most useful only if we all continue to feed information into it.

Fill out the form below for Lis Knibbe
301 N. Washington
483-6653

RIVERSIDE PARK:

Work is underway to stabilize the bank, with improvements to the road, new lighting, and a small parking lot to come. Our own Bruce Rankin designed the project !

REHAB REFERRAL

Your Name _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Type of Work _____

Name of Contractor or Tradesperson (Yourself?) _____

Would you use this person again? _____ Yes _____ No

Comments: _____

Are you willing to be contacted by a prospective user concerning your experience? _____ Yes _____ No

"Ignorance is still the greatest enemy of preservation".

... Kent Barwick,
Chairman,
New York
Landmarks
Preservation
Commission

Hist. Pres.
July/August
1980

ANNUAL HISTORIC HOME TOUR:

A new area of town will be featured on this year's Heritage Foundation Historic Home Tour, with three houses of exceptional quality on the west side of town. This is an unfamiliar part of town for Festival visitors, and we are pleased to have it represented so splendidly on this year's Tour. All three homes will be easily seen in one stop, with a leisurely stroll around one of Ypsilanti's finest neighborhoods. Two other homes on the Tour can also be taken in with only one stop, as they are both on the near south side. The sixth home, an apartment in a commercial building, is on Michigan Avenue.

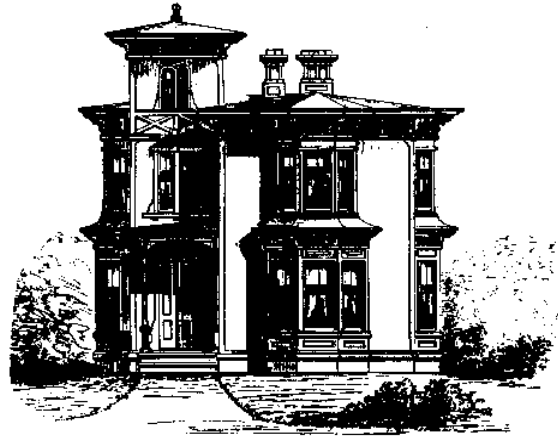
Variety and individuality will again be the keynote features on the Tour, which we think will offer Tour goers a fresh, new, and exciting image of Ypsilanti.

With pleasure and pride, we announce this year's Homes:

William & Karen Nickels	- 311 North Wallace
James & Mary Baker	- 911 Pearl
Robert & Shari Strauss	- 1124 Grant
John & Valerie Sprentall	- 116 South Adams
Kyle & Sheryl Andeer	- 217 Woodward
Rob Fink	- 103½ West Michigan

DATE: Sunday, August 29
TIME: Noon to 5:00 p.m.
PRICE: \$3.00 Adults
\$1.50 Children under 12
\$2.00 Senior Citizens

Guides are needed - volunteers,
please call Jane Bird, 482-8989



YESTERYEAR HERITAGE FESTIVAL:

Plans are well underway for this annual event. More units (floats, bands, antique vehicles, costumed marchers, etc.) are needed for the parade. If you wish to volunteer your services to any of the multitude of projects which make up the Festival program, call the Visitors and Convention Bureau, 482-4920, NOW !

Here are only some of dozens of exciting Festival events:

The CIRCUS ! The HOME TOUR !

PIONEER VILLAGE ! STAGE ENTERTAINMENT !

PARADE, MUSIC, FOOD, DRINK, ARTS AND CRAFTS !

And that's only a sample of the fun !



NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, September 28, 1982
PLACE: The Hutchinson House (High/Scope) *at 7:00*
at the corner of
North River and East Forest
SPEAKER: Mr. William Nickels, Vice President of the Heritage
Foundation
PROGRAM: The Dodge Houses: Meadowbrook Hall and Rose Terrace

Most of us know Bill Nickels as our most stalwart and reliable friend of preservation activities in Ypsilanti, the man most responsible for the Heritage Foundation parade floats, a mainstay of the Home Tour committee, and a source of level-headed judgment when the chips are down. (And let us not forget that it was Bill who risked life and limb climbing onto the roof of the derelict Stachlewitz House to stop a huge, gaping hole at the corner of the tower into which buckets of rain had been pouring! Now that building is on the National Register and bears a marker from the Heritage Foundation.)

Bill is also a faculty member, in the Chemistry Department, at Schoolcraft Community College. It may come as a surprise that Bill and his wife, Karen, are experts on the history and architecture of two great American mansions, the Dodge houses, Meadowbrook Hall and Rose Terrace. The history of the family and these two magnificent structures, one lost, the other still gloriously serving society, is fascinating - and Bill has been collecting slides for the past ten years which depict vividly that tragic and beautiful history. His emphasis will be upon Rose Terrace, bits of which are now scattered throughout the world. His illustrated talk will appeal to you whether you are a hard-nosed realist when it comes to preservation or, like your editor, a filthy Romanticist. Come! Bring a friend!

1982 HOME TOUR A SUCCESS - Again this year, the annual Historic Home Tour went off smoothly. Sales were up again, and crowds from all over southeastern Michigan (as well as some from Ohio) seemed very pleased with the Tour. Remarks such as, "This is my first time on the Ypsilanti Home Tour, but I'll be sure to be back next year!" were heard at more than one house. Thanks to all those who made it such a success - the multitude of tour guides, the ticket sellers, the businesses which contributed to the printing of the brochure, the florists whose arrangements graced the homes on Tour, and the home owners themselves who, after months of work, opened their doors during Festival. Ypsilanti is a better place to live because of your generosity and dedication. Again, THANK YOU!!

NOTEWORTHY IMPROVEMENTS!!!

Come good times, bad times ... no matter, some folks still manage to take pride in their property. With all the grim reports and predictions that fill the papers these days, we would do well once in a while to stop and notice the good things that are happening around us in Ypsilanti. For instance, HAVE YOU SEEN ...

Serbay Motor Sales, 34 E. Michigan, where work is in progress to expand the business and renovate the building, using the brick and stone Art Moderne structures already there? With minimum expense they have gained maximum value from their present buildings. Congratulations, Mr. Serbay, on your opening of a new Buick dealership in Ypsilanti!

The Glover House (Child & Family Service), 118 S. Washington, where renovation is underway on the elaborate front porches, all done to the exacting specifications of the Michigan History Division, thanks to both state and local grant funding? Go look, and see it happening!

109 N. River, seemingly decayed to the point of no return? The big, old Italianate house has a new lease on life. Overgrown shubbery was cleared this summer, and the main roof and porch roof and chimney were rebuilt. More good work is scheduled to follow.

Prospect Park, where the fountain and the flowers are a treat? Fall is the perfect time to enjoy it! Kids will like the new play equipment.

19th Century colors continue to blossom on the East Side. 326 Maple and 305 E. Cross are newly blue, while 402 E. Cross and 330 Oak are now pale yellow. Summer paint jobs also spruced up the homes at 309 E. Cross, 108 and 323 Maple, and 406 Oak. Keep your eye on 313 E. Cross as it works its way back to splendor. And notice, when you're headed east on Washtenaw, as you turn onto Emmet, the beautiful new paint colors on the corner house at your left.

101 N. Summit, where there is a new picket fence out in front of the charming Greek Revival cottage? Thanks for one less prison-wall chain-link fence in Ypsilanti!

216 N. Hamilton, where there is a nice muted green and cream paint job, with brown shutters, setting off the house's beauty?

The Mainstreet Saloon (formerly The Grainery), where there's a new paint job and new signage? Note particularly the sign over the front entrance, which shows individuality and good taste.

330 Oak, where the asphalt siding is disappearing, to reveal sound old clapboard underneath? Owners Terry and Sandy Webster would be glad to talk to you about what an easy job it has been.

Rich's Carpentry in the old Thompson Bldg on N. River, where an appropriate new sign sets an example for other businesses in that historic structure?

HOME ENERGY SAVINGS WORKSHOP

Everything you wanted to know about home energy savings is your free at this meeting sponsored by the Historic East Side Association. Talk with professionals from at least eight energy-related businesses. Examine products and hear mini-lectures. Enjoy a coffee-and-questions hour. See you at Adams School multi-purpose room, on Thurs. Sept. 23, 7:00 p.m. Enter from the north parking lot.

HISTORIC EAST SIDE ASSO. is

also offering Old-House Journal for \$12 instead of \$16 a year, new or renewed subscriptions. That's a deal, and if they sell just six more, they will be eligible for a \$1000 grant drawing. Call Scott Kunst at 482-2188 (evenings) or 994-2001 (days).

Sandy Knight, our new Chairperson-in-Charge-of-Refreshments, assures us that

DUES are due !!!
Treasurer: Marv Warner

HERITAGE FOUNDATION Establishes \$500 SCHOLARSHIP for HISTORIC PRESERVATION STUDIES at EASTERN

The Board of Directors of the Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation, in cooperation with the Department of Geography and Geology at Eastern Michigan University, has established a \$500 scholarship to be granted annually to a student in the graduate historic preservation program. This student may be one who serves the city's Community Development Department as recorder-secretary to the Historic District Commission or one who makes a notable contribution to preservation in Ypsilanti. The Board found it a distinct pleasure to work with Marshall McLennan and Andrew Nazarro of the Department of Geography and Geology in planning this venture. It is hoped that the first scholarship will be awarded by Summer 1983.

HERITAGE FOUNDATION INVESTS IN GOVERNMENT FUNDS

After seven years of hard work & frugality, during which time the Foundation's savings account gained little in interest, the Board of Directors has voted to invest in government funds, which, hopefully, will make our new scholarship program and other projects possible. While projects must remain small, a healthy interest income will help to give us a latitude in our operations not enjoyed before. Perhaps the scholarship fund will encourage new benefactors! At least we hope it will inspire more members to pay their dues!

HOUSE HISTORY LEAFLET AVAILABLE

A technical leaflet entitled "The History of a House: How to Trace It" is available from the Foundation. Produced by the American Association for State and Local History, the 8-page bulletin explains how to find information on property and buildings. It will be available at the next meeting, or call Jack Harris at 485-2155 for copies.

FOUNDATION SENDS PAST PRESIDENT TO NATIONAL TRUST MEETING IN LOUISVILLE

The Board of Directors voted unanimously to fund sending Jane Bird, past president and present board member, to the upcoming annual conference of the National Trust in Louisville, Kentucky. She will attend a series of meetings under the general title, "Historic Districts", and participate in a workshop for Landmark and Historic District Commissions. The Board felt that her service to the community could only be enhanced by her attendance at such a conference. Unexpectedly, sending her has already produced positive results. Not wanting to attend alone, she has inspired at least four others to attend! The list now includes John Van Bolt, Jack Harris and Lis Knibbe, all Historic District Commission members. A call from our group has even inspired the staff director of Ann Arbor's Historic District Commission, Louisa Pieper, to attend. This is undoubtedly the first time that Ypsilanti will have been so well represented at a National Trust meeting. Look for a report in the November issue of the NEWSLETTER!

SENATOR RIEGLE RESPONDS TO FOUNDATION PETITION:

In response to a petition signed by thirty-eight people at the May meeting of the Foundation, Senator Don Rieggle has sent a letter which emphasizes the importance to Ypsilanti of the State Historic Preservation Office and its professional staff as "essential to the development and ultimate success of local historic preservation projects".

In specific reference to the Reagan Administration's proposal to reduce or eliminate the 1983 appropriations for state preservation programs, Senator Rieggle states:

"In addition to the economic stimulus that historic preservation projects provide for local communities, I believe that preservation of our historic and cultural resources is essential to our understanding of not only the past, but the present and the future as well. Historic preservation should not be curtailed in a short-sighted attempt to reduce federal budget deficits. The monetary gains of such a move would be minimal at best and the loss to our cultural heritage would be irreversible".

Senator Rieggle assures us that he will support efforts to maintain funding for the State Historic Preservation program.

REHAB REFERRAL:

It is working! We are sharing our experiences with carpenters, handymen, masons, drywallers, window treatment specialists and furnace contractors through the Rehab Referral. Thank you all who have submitted referrals. You have helped your neighbors contact quality professionals to assist them with a variety of old house problems. The Historic East Side Association, in its most recent newsletter, invited its members to participate in the Referral.

We're off to a good start. To be most helpful the Referral's file must continue to expand. Let us know which contractors you have used and if you would refer your neighbors to them or recommend caution. For example, if you have worked with electricians, plumbers, painters, plasterers, floorsanders, or specialists who restore decorative plaster or do wood graining, share your experience by filling out the form below and giving it to Lis Knibbe at the next Foundation meeting or by mailing it to 301 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. If you have questions about the Referral or are looking for a contractor, call Lis at 483-6653.

REHAB REFERRAL

Your Name _____

Address _____ Phone _____

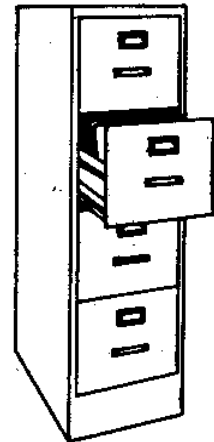
Type of work _____

Name of Contractor or Tradesperson (Yourself?) _____

Would you use this person again? Yes No

Comments: _____

Are you willing to be contacted by a prospective user concerning your experience? Yes No



A HINT ABOUT THE CHRISTMAS PARTY!

Although it's painfully early to mention Christmas, members may be intrigued to know that the owners of one of the most elegant Gothic Revival houses on the east side have offered to host the party! Remember that you must be a paid-up member to receive an invitation, so call Mary Warner at 482-8217 or send her your dues if you know you haven't paid for this year. Don't miss this event!

NEXT BOARD MEETING DELAYED:

Board members please note that the board meeting for October will be delayed one week. It is now scheduled for Wed. Oct. 13, 7:30, at Mary Warner's house, 510 Roosevelt. Note this on your calendar!

The beautiful, new 1983 calendars will be available at this next meeting - Tues. Sept. 28 !!





NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, November 23, 1982 - 7:30 p.m.

PLACE: The Hutchinson House (High/Scope)
at the corner of
North River and East Forest

PROGRAM: Mr. Ray Vorce's twelve-minute movie of
"Ypsilanti in 1928"! DON'T MISS IT!

Let's forget our troubles for an evening and take a ride together into Ypsilanti's past. Let's make it an evening to reminisce, to remember the old times, and - if you're a newcomer to town (say, post 1940!) - capture a sense of place and time in the town you've recently adopted.

This unique movie will be played twice, with a break for refreshments, so we may see the film, say what we THINK we saw, and then see it again and clarify our first impressions.

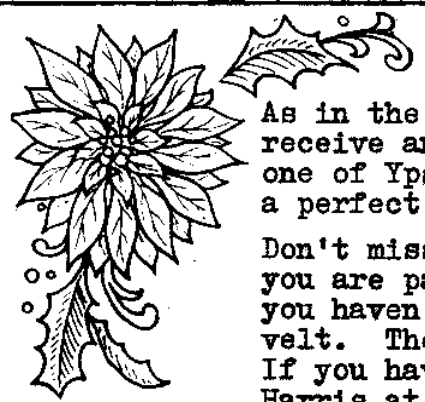
You may remember that two years ago we had a similar program, when Mr. Robert LaRue showed his slides of old Ypsilanti, a program which drew a large crowd and stimulated lively discussion. Now we have for your delight what we think is the only classic film of Ypsilanti/1928, a vintage film of our town as a special treat for you in this holiday season!

CALL ALL THE LIFE-LONG RESIDENTS YOU KNOW AND BRING THEM WITH YOU TO THIS UNIQUE PROGRAM! If you need transportation, call Jack Harris at 485-2155. We want you there!

REMINDER: This is our Annual Meeting with an important election of Board members.

Coming Soon!

The Annual Foundation Christmas Party!



As in the past, all dues-paid members of the Foundation will receive an invitation to the party, to be held this year at one of Ypsilanti's most elegant homes, an East Side gem, and a perfect place for a Christmas party.

Don't miss this event of the season. If you aren't sure if you are paid up, call Mary Warner, 482-8217. If you know you haven't paid, send your check now to Mary at 510 Roosevelt. Then await a call or card, inviting you to the party. If you haven't been contacted by December 10, call Jack Harris at 485-2155. We don't want anyone to miss the fun!

LOUISVILLE

When the Board of Directors voted unanimously in August to send our former president to the National Trust Annual Meeting in Louisville, they little knew what impact they were making on the nation! Jane's going inspired three others on the Historic District Commission to attend and, with students and faculty from EMU's Historic Preservation program, the number of folks in Louisville wearing "Ypsilanti" badges shot up an unbelievable 15! - the largest representation from anywhere in the country, with the possible exception of New York and Washington. Jane, Lis Knibbe, John Van Bolt, and Jack Harris attended various sessions on such topics as neighborhoods, main street revitalization, historic district commissions, and design problems. It was a stimulating and inspiring meeting, coming at a time when most of us were suffering from post-Festival burnout. EMU and Ypsilanti were together - as of old - in Louisville!

MAIN STREET COMES TO YPSILANTI

On November 3 and 4, Ypsilanti business people and civic leaders united in an intensive two-day series of meetings to discuss downtown revitalization. Sponsored by the Downtown Development Authority, the program was under the direction of Tom Lutz, from the National Trust's "Main Street" program in Washington, D.C. Lutz's central point was that Ypsilanti will not have a viable downtown again until the community at large decides that it is ready to make a total commitment to downtown.

At the final dinner meeting at Woodruff's Grove, Lutz told his large audience that they seem "intimidated by some neighbors". He expressed astonishment that so many of his audience still had doubts about the value of an historic preservation program, which to him means, essentially, making the most of the unique resources that we have.

He urged the creation of a new umbrella organization which would work with objectivity and vigor to mobilize the community in making a vital downtown. He noted the need for an energetic, young, outside professional who would work full time on the project; but the ultimate success of the project would depend upon an all-out community effort.

THANK YOU !

To all Foundation members, my sincerest thanks for your generosity in making it possible for me to go to Louisville. We trust that what we gained from those meetings will benefit not only those of us who attended, but all of us as we can share and make use of what we learned.

JIM WESTFALL SENDS GREETINGS

How many of you, if we were to have a contest for our favorite Heritage Foundation member, would vote for Jim Westfall, even though we're all a bit jealous of his soaking up the sun in Florida. Jim sends his greetings (& his dues!) and we return our best wishes & thanks to him. How we wish he could join us at the Christmas party! Who will play the piano?

HISTORICAL MUSEUM CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, December 12
2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Museum, 220 N. Huron

The Ypsilanti High School Chamber Singers will perform.





WELCH HALL ENDANGERED !!!

If you care about Welch Hall, Eastern Michigan's oldest building and its first "Normal Training School", now is the time to speak up. If you read the papers, you know that the University is in the process of 'mothballing' the building. Moth balls suggest to most of us protection, a means of warding off the enemies of anything we'd like to keep safe. Unfortunately, that's not what is happening to Welch. Workmen are dismantling much of the interior and shutting off the heat - and anyone who knows the effects of that gesture (the accelerated destruction of the fabric of the building, particularly the brick), should be alarmed and deeply distressed. Now a large hole has been knocked through an outside wall, ostensibly to remove equipment. It seems strange to some of us that the University should be destroying its oldest building at the same time that it is featuring a photograph of Welch on the cover of the latest catalog designed to appeal to students. (Almost invariably those who design those appealing catalogs use the University's few oldest buildings to catch the eye of parent and prospective student.) We are told that the building is not efficient to operate, yet we see an endless flow of funds being sunk into much newer buildings such as Pray-Harrold, where heating is a constant problem, where elevators are perpetually breaking down, where new insulated wall have to be built over the original, new windows have to be replaced, and leaky roofs have to be replaced entirely. Why, then, can't a simple, old-fashioned roof be put on Welch and the heat left on low while the discussion goes forward as to its future? (It could, for example, be a superb image-maker for the University, if its architectural and historical significance were touted; if, say, the ground floor were to become an exciting modern museum and art gallery, and the upper floors were to be executive offices, so conveniently near the Union.) Finally, what would become of that favorite campus space around Starkweather, bounded as it is by Sherzer, Ford, McKenny, and Welch, once the latter were removed? The whole courtyard effect of that enclosed space would be shattered and Eastern's most charming corner would be exposed to the raw and ugly traffic of Cross and Washtenaw.

WE CANNOT LET SHORTSIGHTEDNESS PREVAIL HERE !!



Write or call President Porter! If you know a Regent, call!!

Or write the local newspapers. This is OUR heritage, too - the city of Ypsilanti gave the land and much of the funds for the erection of this historic building. We all have, not only a right, but a duty to speak up - NOW !!!

The NEW 1983 Heritage
Foundation CALENDAR
is now available -
still at \$3

A wonderful Christmas
gift!



FOUNDATION LIBRARY - These books have
been added to the library and are ready
to go out on loan to any member (call
Jane Bird, 482-8989):

Directory of American Preservation
Commissions

Landmarks Preservation & the Property Tax
by David Listokin

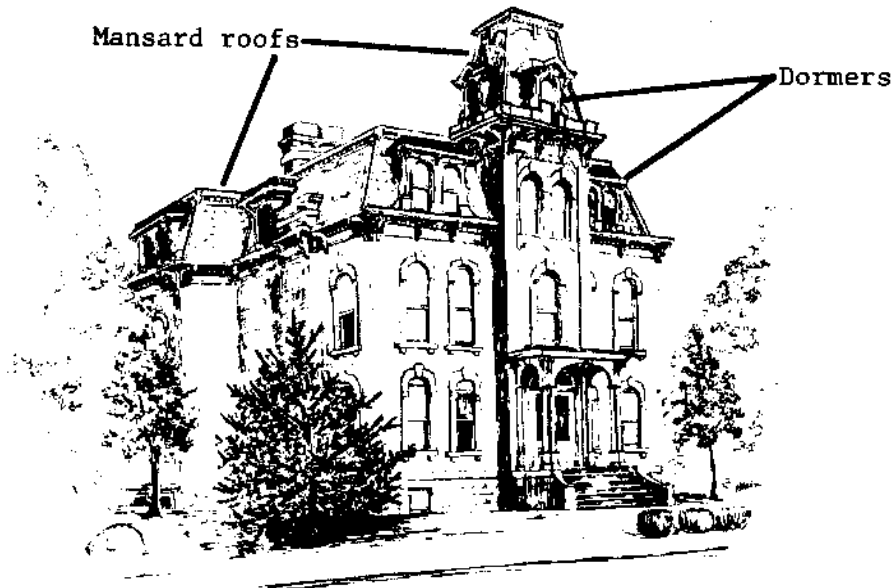
Respectful Rehabilitation, prepared by
Technical Preservation Services,
National Park Service, U.S. Department
of the Interior

Historic Preservation Plan, Middletown,
Ohio

Old and New Architecture, National Trust
for Historic Preservation, Society of
Architectural Historians, American
Institute of Architects

Design for the Business District,
prepared by Robert Hartmann for Racine
Urban Aesthetics, Inc.

The following is the fourth of five descriptions of architectural styles commonly found in Ypsilanti. They are from a primer of historic architecture developed by Jerry Fouchey and Jane Bird for the Ypsilanti Public Schools Local History Project.



2nd EMPIRE - 1855-1890

Typical features: Mansard roof
Dormer windows in the roof
Slate or metal roof

The 2nd Empire style of architecture is always recognizable by its very distinctive mansard roof. A mansard roof is almost flat on top and almost vertical on the sides. The mansard roof was named after its original designer, the French architect, Francois Mansart (1589-1666). Many mansard roofs are pierced by a dazzling variety of dormer windows. These windows are rectangular, pointed, gabled, round or even arranged in double rows of dormers. Slate, which is a thin, flat stone cut into decorative shapes, was often used on these steep mansard roofs.



NEWSLETTER

The Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation invites you to an
"Informal Evening with Reynold Lowe of Materials Unlimited"

at

2 West Michigan Avenue - Tuesday, January 25 - 7:30 pm

Join us for our usual bimonthly meeting - in a most unusual setting - the former Moose Lodge overlooking the Huron River, at the west end of the Michigan Avenue bridge. The lights will gleam and the stained glass will glow as Reynold Lowe talks informally about the history and nature of his nationally-known restoration workshops and showrooms here in the heart of Ypsilanti. To meet there of an evening with others like yourself who care about beautiful things out of the past should be an especial treat. Mr. Lowe will show slides and illustrate first hand some of his processes of refinishing and restoration. With three floors to explore, an almost infinite number of antiques and salvaged objects to examine, the evening will be all too short. Refreshments will, as usual, be served!

Bring a friend and join us!!

SPECIAL FEATURE

THE CANDIDATES SPEAK OUT ON PRESERVATION

The Heritage Foundation is not a political action group. Expect no official endorsement of candidates in the present race for mayor of Ypsilanti. The Foundation is an educational group dedicated to the field of historic preservation insofar as it will best promote and enhance the general welfare of the citizens of Ypsilanti, and in the interest of public education, the Foundation has invited all of the mayoral candidates to express themselves on the subject: "The Future of Historic Preservation in Ypsilanti".

Councilmember
NATHALIE EDMUNDS

Councilmember
CHARLES KETTLES

Mayor
PETE MURDOCK

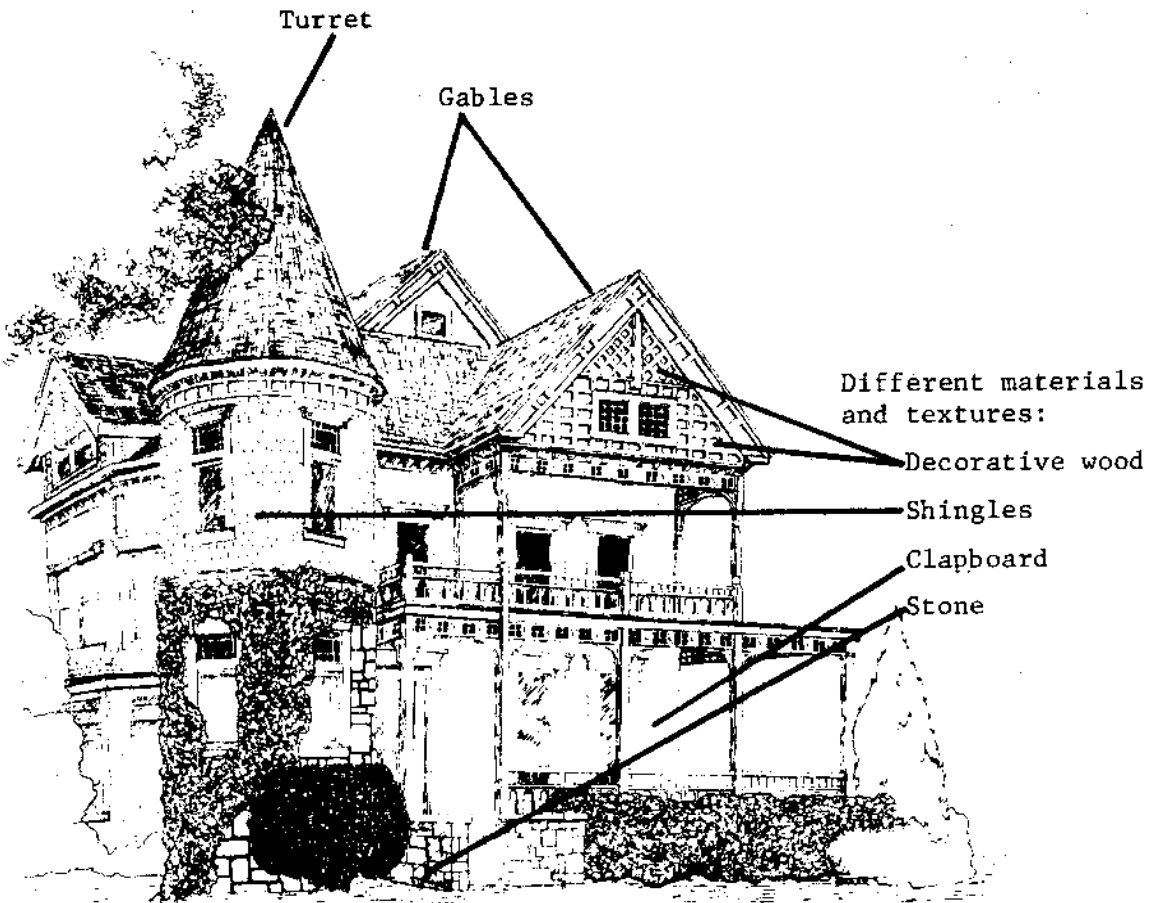
Growing widespread acceptance of historic preservation in Ypsilanti makes me optimistic for the future. It is here to stay! Although problems exist, they are minor compared to the past and can be helped by educating property owners that renovation is economically feasible within the parameters of historic preservation. As I look back on my own efforts during the last twenty seven years, it is gratifying to see the results of preservation and to see former opponents of preservation become aggressive advocates.

My first experience with restoration was in 1956 when my husband

My personal interest in historic preservation of significant structures within the community evolved from my respect for history and direct association with the community. My grandfather moved to Ypsilanti from London, Ontario in October 1916. Three generations remain in this City today. I was born here in 1930. Further, P.R. Cleary, founder of Cleary College and my wife's grandfather, moved to this community in 1882, at the age of 24. Three generations remain in this City today. My own interest in this subject is not necessarily shared by all of the community currently within the geographic boundaries of the

Preservation is an important element of a community's growth and development. It is particularly valuable in older communities such as Ypsilanti to provide a strategy or partial strategy for the revitalization of deteriorating neighborhoods and failing commercial areas. Preservation can lead to a stabilization and improvement of property values and the strengthening of the City's tax base. It can provide the impetus for a rebirth of commercial activity such as has happened in Depot Town. Preservation and the activities associated with it lead to a renewed sense of community pride and an increased community involvement.

The following is the fifth of five descriptions of architectural styles commonly found in Ypsilanti. They are from a primer of historic architecture developed by Jerry Fouchey and Jane Bird for the Ypsilanti Public Schools Local History Project.



QUEEN ANNE - 1875-1900

Typical features: Large variety of forms, textures, materials and colors
Great collection of gables, dormers, shingles, turrets, chimneys, windows and porches
Asymmetrical (unbalanced) design

This very fancy style can best be recognized by the tremendous variety of everything! The Queen Anne style of architecture uses a variety of gables, dormers, chimneys, turrets, windows, bays and porches built of many different materials and textures, all in an unbalanced (asymmetrical) arrangement. Chimney bricks are laid in beautiful patterns. Smooth boards, clapboards and several different kinds of shingles were all used on the same building. No two turrets, chimneys, dormers or porches were ever alike!

COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED TO EXPLORE FUTURE OF WELCH HALL

Since our Foundation meeting in November, when we discussed the future of Welch Hall, Professor Andrew Nazarro, Director of the Historic Preservation Program at Eastern, met with Eastern's Board of Regents to discuss the matter. He was accompanied by numerous students and a few faculty and interest citizens. The most enthusiastic interest in the subject came from Regents Dolores Kinzel and Beth Milford. It was Kinzel's proposal to establish a committee to explore the alternatives to demolition. Prof. Nazarro agreed to meet with Vice President Romkema to select the committee. On Monday, January 10 they decided that the committee would consist of two students, two faculty members (including Nazarro), Romkema (from the administration), a University lawyer, and Nancie Loppnow, a member of the community - who, incidentally, attended our last meeting. An article on Welch appeared in the Jan. 10 issue of The Echo, the main thrust of which was the opposing points of view held by Nazarro and Romkema. Romkema believes that those who want Welch preserved are misled by their own sentimentality. Let's hope that the committee can show that this is a much more serious issue, that something of great value to the University and the community is at stake, and that preserving a building build of the finest materials of its time (1896) is worth the investment of a fraction of the money that the University is pouring into much newer structures.

DS, con't.

I restored a 19th century aspect St. home to serve as his office. Over the next few years we moved the Octagon House (slated for demolition) to River St., where we also acquired two other threatened homes. My interest in preservation intensified during the 1960's and 1970's when I initiated six separate campaigns to save the old Library and other Huron St. structures from being torn down for new construction. It is difficult to believe today that in 1970 the City administration proposed to demolish Depot Town and River St. for industrial development, also proposed leveling the old Fire Station. I became a City Council member in 1970 and with the help of a few concerned citizens was able to defeat these proposals. After this I sought National Register historic district designation for the area. The process took eight years. It took two years to convince Council to appoint a local historic district study committee. In 1973, Council designated the boundaries of the local district but it took five more years of hard work before Council finally passed the ordinance in 1978. There are many aspects of preservation I am unable to mention in detail due to space limitations. These include a number of projects I spearheaded in the 1970's - an ad hoc group (forerunner of the Heritage Foundation) that defeated a demolition project for homes on the west side of Huron St., facilities for Artrain I; the securing of a grant from America the Beautiful to fund a U. of M. architectural graduate student to develop a Depot Town renovation plan (his concept of a farmers market & his comprehensive design provided the basis for development of the present plan); and the founding of the Ypsilanti Yesteryear Heritage Festival, which has done much to educate the entire community as to the benefits of preservation. The local historic district ordinance is not mandated by Federal or State law or by City Charter. It could be abolished in two meetings of Council or by citizen initiative or it could be amended and become meaningless.

KETTLES, con't.

Historic District. In keeping with the democratic form of government, I believe that it appropriate to identify and recognize the majority interest of those within the District as well as the rights of the remaining part of the community outside of the District. If those who reside outside of the Historic District feel strongly toward implementing the associated ordinance, then with that comes an obligation to support those directly affected within the the District. In the case of the business community, support includes patronizing them whenever possible. In turn, the merchants must be competitive & reflect a favorable attitude toward the community & the people they serve. To put the horse before the cart; we as a community must orient our purchase of goods and services toward the downtown merchants if in fact we wish to have a business area which represents a quality more in keeping with the image of our heritage which we choose to hold. In summary, this

MURDOCK, con't.

Despite the fact that Ypsilanti has been in the midst of a severe economic depression, preservation has led to or has been a part of many significant activities in our community. One only has to look to my neighborhood, the City's near East Side, to see the physical and economic turn-around of the Depot Town and adjacent residential area. The community pride that has developed through organizations such as the Depot Town Association, the Historic East Side Association, and the Near South Side Neighborhood Organization has encompassed preservation as a major component. The North Huron Street corridor and the Huron Hotel are other developments that utilized preservation in their rebirth. The Heritage Festival, the City's most successful tourist attraction, is of course centered around the concepts of preservation. Right now preservation in Ypsilanti is facing its severest test. The controversy surrounding the National Bank of Ypsilanti project has acted as a catalyst for opponents of preservation to rally around. As you know, the City Council has established a committee to review the Historic District Ordinance, its administration & impact on the City. The committee's report is due on February 7 and will make known its findings and any recommendations relative to the Ordinance and its administration. I do not wish to pre-empt the Committee's report but let it suffice to say that the re-

less.

Diplomacy is essential in promoting historic preservation within the total framework of our community. At the suggestion of Tom Lutz of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, I have asked Council to place a one year moratorium on Commission review of downtown building permit applications. This move will provide an opportunity for less pressured consideration of revitalization alternatives and will allow time to develop an approach to downtown redevelopment within the framework of preservation.

"Ypsilanti Alive" is a new program of the Central Business Community and the purpose is to revitalize downtown. Liz Knibbe and I serve on the steering committee. Volunteers (and eventually a full time consultant) will provide merchants with plans and ideas for renovation based on the National Trust Main St. program.

I believe that Ypsilanti economic goals and preservation goals may be achieved through creative approach and cooperation. I believed this when I first joined Council 12 years ago and I believe now that as Mayor, I can better help achieve these goals.

In summary, this means that the interest of the majority must be identified for the community in its entirety. Separate from that, the interest of the majority representative of the two elements, business & residential, within the District must be identified. With that information, the method whereby we can satisfy those interests would be clear. A price must also be recognized for the accomplishment of those goals. There is not a simple one answer to the broad & complex question concerning historic preservation for the City.

suffice to say that the recommendations probably will be aimed at improving the administration of the Ordinance. As to the question at hand - The Future of Preservation in Ypsilanti - the answer is the future lies in those who make it. It is up to us as a community to determine what this future of preservation will be. Community groups such as the Heritage Foundation, are key to ensuring the public understanding and support of preservation. The public policy that develops toward preservation is directly correlated to the level of public support. I look forward to participating in the effort to ensure that there is a future for preservation in Ypsilanti.

SCHOLARSHIP SOON TO BE ESTABLISHED

The Foundation Board of Directors has unanimously passed upon the proposal & procedure for a Preservation Scholarship Fund to be set up for a deserving EMU Preservation Program student committed to the Ypsilanti community. Prof. Nazarro is in the process of working out the details with the University for administering the fund.

HERITAGE FESTIVAL PLANS ARE UNDERWAY

Nat Edmunds reports that some committees are already at work and others are being set up to deal with the multitude of activities for the '83 Festival. Anyone interested in serving in some capacity to make this event another success - call the Chamber of Commerce, 482-4920.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

This Newsletter welcomes your views and opinions. Send your letters to:

Editor Jack Harris
510 Pearl
Ypsilanti, Mi. 48197

DUES are always due !!

HELP !!!

The Foundation desperately needs more people to work on its various committees - especially HOME TOUR !!! If you are interested, call Jack Harris at 485-2155. (Please don't complain about what's done or not done unless you're willing to get out and DO IT !

1983 CALENDARS

More handsome than ever -
Available now -
\$3

SAD NEWS

Foundation member David McGaffin died earlier this month. We extend our most heartfelt sympathies to his wife, Ethel, and family.

WELCOME, NEW MEMBER !

Martha Galley Anderson
651 Kalamazoo St.
South Haven, Mi. 49090

Her friendly letter stated that her family lived in Ypsilanti from 1920 to 1938, and that she, her sister, and all her brothers graduated from high school here and from EMU.



MARCH 1983

NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, March 22, 1983 - 7:30 p.m.
PLACE: The Hutchinson House (High/Scope)
at the corner of
North River and East Forest
PROGRAM: "Rural Housing in Washtenaw County and its
Cultural Roots"
SPEAKER: Dr. Marshall S. McLennan
President, Washtenaw County Historic
District Commission
Co-Director, Historic Preservation
Program, Eastern Michigan
University

Have you ever spent an afternoon on a spring, summer or autumn day driving up and down the country roads of Washtenaw County making discoveries (remember when gas was 35¢ a gallon?). For those who haven't, there are unimaginably beautiful and interesting sights, and above all, variety - exciting old houses in every lane - clapboard, brick, stone - especially cobblestone, and even log. Some of us had these pleasures in those years when transportation was cheaper - now we are offered an evening of slides, making those discoveries again.

Dr. McLennan's program is based upon a study made by EMU during 1981-82, funded by the Michigan History Division's Historical Preservation Fund. It explores the architectural styles found in rural Washtenaw County and traces their roots in older parts of the country.

Come along as we travel with Dr. McLennan down nearby roads and lanes and discover our roots! If you're having an identity crisis, this should help - even if you're not, the evening should be a delight!

Sandra Knight, our Refreshment Chairperson, has promised the usual outlay of goodies. And for those who still haven't spent an evening in the elegance of the Hutchinson mansion - one of Ypsilanti's finest - this is your opportunity.

DOWNTOWN TO BE REMOVED FROM HISTORIC DISTRICT ?

Those of you who do not receive any local paper should be informed that, on March 7, the Ypsilanti City Council, by a vote of 8-3, instructed the City administration to prepare a resolution to separate the downtown commercial area from the Historic District. The motion was introduced by Councilmember Albert Robinson and was supported by Councilmember Nathalie Edmunds. Voting to remove downtown were David Kircher, Jerry Curtis, Dan Studer, Eula Booker Tate, Charles Kettles, and Faz Husaein. Supporting the retention of downtown in the Historic District were Tom Dodd, Carolyn McKeever, and Mayor Pete Murdock.

Council will act on this resolution in the very near future (exact date uncertain). Any opinions you may wish to communicate to the newspapers or to City Council should be forwarded immediately !

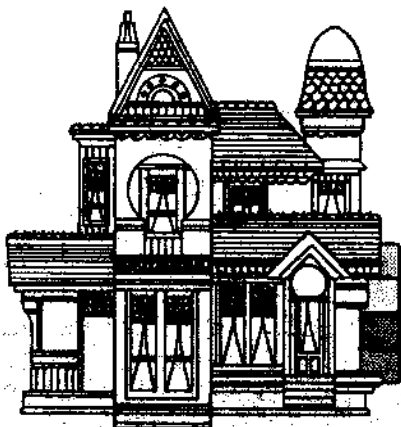
MARIGOLD SALE CHAIRMEN MAKE PLANS

Dick Warner and Bill Fennel, Co-Chairs of the 4th Annual Marigold Sale, sponsored by the Foundation, have set the date for the sale: Saturday, May 7, the day before Mother's Day. Plants will include marigolds, petunias, and impatiens. These will be top quality plants and prices will be competitive. Support the Foundation and beautify Ypsilanti! Remind your neighbors to put the date on their calendars. We hope to have the sale again on the green on the north side of Old Town Hall, corner of N. Huron and Cross. Work volunteers call Dick, 482-8217 or Bill 482-1071. **DON'T FORGET THE DATE - Sat. May 7 !!**



SABBATICAL LEAVE FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT

One of only nine one-semester leaves granted by Eastern Michigan University for next year went to Dr. Jack Harris, Department of English Language and Literature, who will establish an educational program for the Towner House Children's Museum in Ypsilanti. Working with the Co-Director of the Museum, Judy White, Harris hopes to develop a program which uses the rich human resources of the University to help the Public Schools with their well-established Community History Project. The Museum Board hopes to make the Towner House an important center for developing in the young a sense of place and a pride in their own community.



HOME TOUR PLANS UNDERWAY

Planning for the 1983 Annual Historic Homes Tour, sponsored by the Foundation, got underway last month. Members of the committee are Jack Harris, Jane Bird, and Bill Nickels. Chief guides are already committed & buildings are being selected. An exciting and varied list of homes should make this another highly successful and important contribution to the Ypsilanti Heritage Festival. Watch for details in the May NEWSLETTER. If you wish to serve on this important event, please call: Jack 485-2155, Jane 482-8989, Bill 483-8896

HELP ME REGAIN MY DIGNITY !!

Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Stamos, owners of the Gothic Revival Samson House at 302 West Cross (corner of North Adams and Cross) are planning the rehabilitation of this historic structure, one of the most impressive buildings in town. Neglected and abused by previous owners and altered over the years, the house apparently is finally going to receive the attention it so much deserves. The Stamoses are particularly interested in information about the history of the building and what it looked like originally, particularly the front. Do any of our senior citizens recall being in the house years ago or remember what it looked like then? Does anyone have photos? If so, call the Stamoses at (313) 483-5695 or write to them at P.O. Box 11, Ypsilanti, Mi. 48197.

COMING ATTRACTION !!!

The 2nd Annual Buffet Pot Luck Supper will be held this year on Tuesday, May 24, at 6:00 p.m., at the Ladies Literary Club, 218 N. Washington.

The event of the evening will be the Annual Presentation of Historic Structure Markers. The owners of marker buildings will be our very special guests.

Anyone (member or non-member) wishing to attend, please call Sandy Knight, 483-5749 or Christine Blinn, 483-3512.

**"THANKS, AND EVER THANKS AND OFT GOOD TURNS ARE SHUFFLED OFF
WITH SUCH INCONSTANT PAY" (William Shakespeare)**

THANKS - to all those citizens who prepared the splendid Feb. 17 defense of the Historic District Ordinance, Commission, and the need to keep the downtown within the Historic District. While the majority of City Council totally ignored this show of support, it was a remarkable demonstration of intelligent and articulate argument for preservation by those who are committed to a better Ypsilanti.

THANKS - to the majority members of the Ad Hoc Review Committee (set up by City Council) for its tremendously impressive and thorough study of the background, administration, and impact of the Ypsilanti Historic District Ordinance as well as proposed remedies, findings, and recommendations. Disregarded by the majority of City Council, this study will nevertheless stand as an important historical document in the history of Ypsilanti. It will also, no doubt, become an important study tool for historic districts state and nationwide. Thanks: Pete Murdock, Denis Schmiedeke, Jane Bird, Hank Prebys and John Van Bolt for your hard work.

THANKS - to the Durant brothers, Bill and Tom, of Durant's Flowers & Durant Construction respectively, for their valiant stance on maintaining mandatory design standards in the downtown. They may have been overruled for the present, but their integrity and commitment to Ypsilanti is evident. Foundation members might want to thank Tom for allowing us to use his handsomely restored Ladies Library during Festival, for serving as speaker at our public meeting just one year ago this month, and for his recent letters of support for the H.D. Ordinance. Members might want to thank Bill for his time-consuming efforts in finding out what actually goes on at H.D. Commission meetings, for his work on the joint committee formed between the CBC and HDC, for his commitment to a plan to improve the appearance of the planters downtown, and for his letters to the press.

THANKS - to City Manager Van Whaler for his first year of service and for his independence, good judgment, and determination to "speak what he feels, not what he ought to say". Stick with us, Van, no other city needs you more.

THANKS - to retiring City Councilmember Tom Dodd, for his delightful cartoon booklet entitled, An Architectural History of Random Falls, which is so cleverly and beautifully drawn that it should receive national attention. Have you sent a copy to the National Trust, Tom? They would love it in Washington, where preservation has come of age. Your device of gentle satire may fall on deaf ears here, but the historic preservation movement is so civilized and its power so established elsewhere, that the effect of your little essay will some day even here be felt, "to help people laugh themselves out of their follies".

THANKS - to Bill Vollano, Director of Child and Family Service, for his persistent determination over the past several years to restore the crumbling Glover House at 118 South Washington. Now, with a generous grant from the State of Michigan, and hours, days and weeks of effort from Bill and his volunteers, the house is once again one of Ypsilanti's treasures. An award is waiting somewhere for you, Bill, and is already there in the hearts of those who genuinely care about this old town.

THANKS - to Preservation Eastern (EMU) for its brand-new newsletter and its support for the preservation of Welch Hall (note the clever logo - the interesting roof line of Welch). For your copy of this most recent preservation-oriented paper, call 487-0218.

WHAT IS DESIGN REVIEW ?

Since we're all quoting the MICHIGAN DESIGN QUARTERLY (see Depot Town Rag, March 1983), some Foundation readers might like to have a few quotes from the latest issue (Winter 82/83). In an interview with Ronald Lee Fleming, President of Townscape Institute in Cambridge, Mass., MDQ asks the question: "What is design review?" The response, in part --

"Design review is the right of governing bodies to require certain standards of behavior in the visual environment. It usually involves an ordinance, a body of people on a planning, art, or zoning commission, and it requires some kind of written environmental standards. It thus necessitates that judgments be made about the quality of the design which architects and builders and contractors and their clients wish to create in a place ... today design review is an authority exercised by a government through a board of citizens, sometimes assisted by professional consultants, and often assisted by the staff of the city. The first dominant type of design review was concerned with maintaining the historic character of a place. But now the concept embraces many new communities which are interested in defining a character where perhaps none existed before ...

Most of these boards consist of five to eight people, usually including someone in real estate, a lawyer, sometimes an architect, a graphic designer or somebody with design training, sometimes a community historian, who all sit and review a proposal made by the architect or his client. [New buildings can and often do] have contemporary looking architecture that still respects the criteria regarding the relationship of window space to wall area, roof lines, types of material, scale of the building, and so forth. ... But unfortunately, many architects have not grown up in an era in which the idea of working within a context is seen as a creative process ...

I think it is important to have people with design background. It is important to have people who have some sense of community history. And that doesn't necessarily mean long periods in the past, but just a sense of the associations of a place ...

The idea is to use the different elements of space and time -- such as elements of community history -- as a way of reinforcing, enriching, and revealing the power of the places in which we live."



NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, May 24, 1983 - 6:30 p.m.
PLACE: LADIES' LITERARY CLUB, 218 North Washington
SPECIAL EVENT: 2nd Annual Awards Banquet - Pot Luck Style
PROGRAM: Historic Structure Marker Awards

Many of you will remember the pleasures of last May's Marker Awards Meeting - a pot luck banquet superbly organized by our program chairperson, Christine Blinn. An automatic slide show of historic properties was there for those interested (as many were!); the marker presentations made to our special guests, the marker recipients; and the luscious outlay of food in the long dining room to be gathered by the plateful and carried into the elegant front parlor - these were the basic ingredients of last year's May meeting. Again, May has arrived, with grass greener than ever and flowers everywhere, and our new refreshment chairperson, Sandy Knight, has been planning another evening in Ypsilanti's most lovely landmark. How could you miss it?

The membership list will be used to call and arrange for a variety of dishes. If for any reason you have not been called - **WHETHER YOU ARE A MEMBER OR NOT** - and you wish to attend this special historic event, simply give Sandy a call at 483-5749.

Remember, dinner at 6:30 - no business meeting, no speaker, just a social gathering where everyone can exchange views about what's happening in our town. Join us!

Marker recipients are NOT, of course, expected to bring a dish, since they are our guests!



The owners of the following buildings will be awarded Historic Structure Markers and will be our very special GUESTS OF HONOR:

Dr. and Mrs. William Edmunds	The Octagon House, 114 North River
High/Scope Foundation	209 Oak
Howard and LuAnn Booth	7 North Normal
The Child and Family Service	118 South Washington
Mrs. Ethel Roper	410 South Huron
Mr. Richard Wartley	Carriage house, 213 North Adams
St. John Catholic Church	410 West Cross

ANNUAL HISTORIC HOME TOUR:

East Side, South Side, West Side - all will be represented on this year's Heritage Foundation Historic Home Tour. This is not, like so many others, a decorator's tour. This is a chance not only to get a good view of Ypsilanti's architectural history but a rare opportunity to get inside four beautiful private residences and one glorious mansion turned social agency. Variety and individuality will again be the keynote features of the tour. In some cases you may still be able to glimpse restoration in progress; but in all instances you will undoubtedly go away with a very positive, up-beat impression of Ypsilanti. While you will need transportation between the east and west sides of town, you will most certainly want to walk the short distance between the houses in each neighborhood.

With pleasure and pride, then, we announce this year's Homes:

- Scott Kunst & Jane Raymond - 318 North Park (19th Century
workingman's cottage)
Hank Prebys & Joe Mattimoe - 301 North Grove (Gothic Revival)
Howard and LuAnn Booth - 7 North Normal (Greek Revival,
French influence)
The Child & Family Service - 118 South Washington (Queen Anne
Glover mansion)
Marty McMillan - 35 South Summit (Queen Anne, with
earlier Gothic features)

DATE: Sunday, August 28

TIME: Noon to 5:00 p.m.

PRICE: \$3.00 Adults
\$1.50 Children under 12
\$2.00 Senior Citizens

Guides are needed - volunteers,
please call Jack Harris, 485-2155
Jane Bird, 482-8989
Bill Nickels, 483-8896



TOWNER HOUSE MUSEUM - Progress Report:

Last year at this time and in this same space it was reported that a 30-day extension on the proposed demolition of this historic structure had been granted. A proposal for a children's museum to be based in the threatened structure had been made and a time schedule for repair and restoration was being worked out. Thus far, the Friends of the Towner House Museum have been able to meet those deadlines. But FUNDING IS URGENT! Anyone caring enough about this worthy project to make a contribution should send check or money order to: Judy White, Chairperson

Friends of Towner House Museum
210 West Cross
Ypsilanti, Mi. 48197

Groups and organizations are also urged to contribute. The money is needed now! The furnace needs repair and exterior painting is planned.

Jack Harris reports that he has applied for a grant from the Michigan Council for the Humanities to do a series of public programs designed to gather together humanists, museum members, parents, teachers, and interested citizens to discuss the value and uses of an historical children's museum. The proposed four-part program would extend from September through December, 1983, the time period of Dr. Harris' sabbatical leave from Eastern Michigan University. Notification of award is due July 1st.

ANYONE INTERESTED IN SERVING AS A WEEKEND VOLUNTEER at the Towner House Museum should call Jack Harris at 485-2155.

Ypsilanti HERITAGE FESTIVAL:

Nat Edmunds, Co-Chair of this annual event, reports that plans are well underway and that this year's Festival should be bigger and better than ever! If you wish to volunteer your services to any of the multitude of projects which make up the Festival program, call the Visitor & Convention Bureau, 482-4920, NOW!

Here are only some of the dozens of exciting Festival events:

CIRCUS! HISTORIC HOME TOUR!
Pioneer Village at Towner House!
Stage Entertainment!
MARBLES TOURNAMENT! PARADE!
Softball Tournament! Food!
NEW PIONEER AND CIVIL WAR ENCAMPMENTS!
ARTS & CRAFTS!
Riverboat Gambling Tent!

And that's only a sample of the fun!



DEPOT RENOVATION "GO" !!!!

Sue Remien Fejes, Community Development Director, has announced that plans for the renovation of the crumbling train station in Depot Town are now "Go" after receiving word that an Urban Development Action Grant from the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development in the amount of \$145,000 had been approved!

Designs for a first class restaurant have been on the drawing board for over a year now, and this appears to be the turning point in making this Depot Town dream a reality!

DOWNTOWN WINDOW DISPLAY:

Lis Knibbe (483-6653) is asking for pictures of old Ypsilanti, especially of downtown, for the storefront window which the Foundation has adopted, in the building adjacent to the Library fountain. Lis reports that the current display has received appreciative comments from downtown business people. Ideas for new displays are welcome, and worker volunteers appreciated!

Bird on PARKER MILL BOARD:

Jane Bird, past YHF pres., was named to the Board of Directors of the newly formed Friends of Parker Mill (Geddes Road), a group which will work closely with the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission to restore the mill to working condition and to develop the surrounding area for park use. An exciting new project - watch area newspapers for progress reports!

YPSILANTIANS ATTEND LOCAL HISTORY CONFERENCE:

A number of Ypsilantians, including Mary Liskow, Drew Nazzaro (with a contingent of his Preservation Eastern students), John Van Bolt, Jack Harris, Denis Schmiedeke, Lis Knibbe, and Jane Bird attended the 25th Annual Conference on Local History, April 15-16, at Wayne State University in Detroit. Major figures at the national and state levels of preservation participated. A special session on Saturday led to a lively and informative discussion of the problems currently besetting Historic District Commissions here in Michigan, including Ypsilanti.

MICHIGAN HISTORIC DISTRICT NETWORK:

Ypsilanti will not only be represented at the next annual meeting of the Michigan Historic District Network in Lansing on June 15, it will be the featured city on the program. Discussion will center on the problems facing historic districts today and how Ypsilanti is weathering its particular turmoil. An exchange of ideas will no doubt be beneficial to all those interested in the advantages of maintaining an historic district. By sharing problems and solutions, districts can better meet their specific difficulties. Ypsilanti will also be heard from in the upcoming issue of the Network Newsletter.

YPSILANTI MAKING HEADLINES !!

Ypsilanti is making news more and more these days - some good, some bad, all of it pretty interesting:

- Mar. 24, Detroit Free Press (Wayne-Western Washtenaw edition) - article discussing HDC's denial of NBY proposal and the lengthy fracas which has followed.
- Apr. 21, Detroit Free Press (Wayne-Western Washtenaw edition) - Ypsilanti resident John Stahl, and sons Scott and John, had a photo and letter printed in the "Why I Love Where I Live" feature. Here's a brief quote: "Ypsilanti has everything one-could want in a big city, but it doesn't have the hustle and bustle ... The parks and playgrounds are perfect for afternoon outings with our boys. As they play on the swings and slides, my wife and I sit under a big shade tree, looking up at its greatness". Thanks a lot, John, for such a nice, appreciative letter - you beat several of us to the mailbox, & we're glad.
- Apr. 24, Detroit Free Press - article entitled "Resistance to historical district laws grows" refers to several cities in Michigan where preservation is under attack, including Ypsilanti.
- May 1, Detroit Free Press - editorial on the value of historic designation refers to Ypsilanti and the NBY proposal.
- May/June, Historic Preservation, the journal of the National Trust for Historic Preservation - lists the Historic East Side Association Walking Tours scheduled for May 8 and 14. Thanks, Sherry Tafini, for making Ypsilanti the only Michigan city to get that national attention!
- May 5, Detroit Free Press - a feature entitled "Remember When" focused on Ypsilanti's last great mansion which cries out for restoration, the Gilbert House. Interested buyers are urged to call the City Manager's office at 483-1100. (There must be an investor with imagination out there somewhere who sees that Ypsilanti is beginning to TURN AROUND. They may also note that the North Grove/Park Street area is beginning to rise from the neglect of earlier decades - note the route of the walking tours and the two houses in that neighborhood which will be on the Historic Home Tour this year.

All this in addition to a great deal of coverage in the Ypsilanti Press and the Ann Arbor News.



Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation

September 1983

NEWSLETTER

- NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, September 27 - 7:30 p.m.
- PLACE:** The Towner House Children's Museum
303 North Huron (at Emmet)
- SPEAKER:** Judy White, Curriculum Director, Ypsilanti Public Schools, and Co-Chair of The Friends of the Towner House Children's Museum
- PROGRAM:** The Plan for the Towner House Children's Museum
- SPONSOR:** This program is funded by the Michigan Council for the Humanities as a part of a larger project to bring together parents, citizens, teachers, students and humanists to discuss the value and purpose of a history-based children's museum. The Heritage Foundation is pleased to serve as host to this MCH sponsored meeting.

Most Foundation members, especially those of long standing, have a particular affection for the Towner House. It was the cause for our coming into existence as an organization dedicated to preservation and preservation education in the Ypsilanti community. The threat of its demolition in 1974 launched a few far-sighted individuals into action; a lease on the building was arranged; repairs were made; and the building turned into one of the most charming residences around. That era ended, and another struggle to save the building - the oldest on its original foundation in the city - ensued. Now again the building is being revitalized: a new roof is on and a paint job is in progress. The building has been a significant part of the Ypsilanti Heritage Festival for two years now, with a multitude of events and activities taking place inside and around the beloved structure.

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This recent development is itself a fascinating story of community resolve and determination. Many people need to be thanked for what we see in progress there now, not the least of whom are the Edmunds (Bill and Nat) for steering others toward the idea of a children's museum. The Presbyterian Church (owners of the building) and its members deserve a note of thanks for their willingness to allow such a community project to take place on their property.

Nevertheless, the really vital force behind what many of us saw happening at the Towner House during Festival is, of course, Judy White, without whom the whole project would still be an idle dream. Let's hear it for JUDY WHITE: YPSILANTI'S WOMAN OF THE YEAR, 1983 !!!

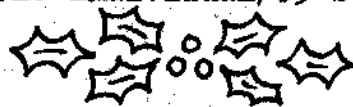
So - mark your calendar today! See you on the 27th, when Judy will talk about the museum project and the plans for renovations to the building and a program of activities for children there in the coming months and years. You are most welcome, even if you're only just curious about such a project, but beware - you may just get caught up in the excitement of a whole new program for young people in our community - a program designed to not only increase the opportunities for planned fun and cultural enrichment but also as a means of developing a sense of pride of place, a sense of community identity for all the young people here, a place at the heart of the city which they can call their own and be proud of. Wouldn't you like to be a volunteer in such a project? Come and join us for an excellent program and refreshments (Sandy Knight continues to serve as our refreshments chairperson - need we say more?)

(Note: What's that old saying? Behind every good woman there's a good man - something like that - anyway, it should be noted that behind Judy, there's Phil White, her husband, and those who worked to ready the Towner House for Festival know how much he contributed - reroofing, building shelves for the gift shop, scraping paint, and jobs ad infinitum, and all with a spirit of cheerful goodwill and enthusiasm for the task at hand.

The CHRISTMAS PARTY

Yes, it's time to start making arrangements, not only for winterizing your house (don't forget a furnace check), but also for the busy Christmas season. Don't forget that the Heritage Foundation holds a special party for paid-up members. This year's host and hostess are looking forward to a large crowd in their spacious, beautiful house. Call Mary Warner (482-8217) now if you're in doubt about your membership status, or send her your dues (510 Roosevelt).

\$15 Family/\$10 Individual/\$3 Senior Citizen



ADDITIONAL CHILDREN'S MUSEUM PROJECT PLANS UNDERWAY:

Jack Harris, who received a semester sabbatical leave from EMU to help plan the program for the Towner House Children's Museum and who has since received a grant from the Michigan Council for the Humanities to do a series of public discussions on the museum (see p. 1 of the Newsletter for the program which the Foundation will host on Sept. 27), reports that plans are well underway for later meetings and events. Members will soon be receiving more specific information about this important series.

It should be noted that the MCH grant paid for two significant aspects of the Children's Museum activities during Heritage Festival - the story teller and the Detroit Historical Museum's "Yesterday on Tour" group. Scheduled for the near future is the moving of EMU's Youth Art Program from Ford Hall on the campus to the Towner House. This is a Saturday art class for talented students. The first meeting at the museum will concentrate on the historic architecture of the area, with a tour, followed by work in the museum. The class is taught by Meg Lewandowski, art teacher in the Ypsilanti Public Schools, and runs for 8 consecutive Saturdays.

The September 27 Foundation meeting, when Judy White will give us an overview of the plans for the museum, is only one of several meetings planned for the fall. ANYONE INTERESTED IN THE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM AND WISHING TO VOLUNTEER THEIR SERVICES SHOULD ATTEND THIS MEETING. Volunteers are needed in all areas of the museum project: working with children on a regular basis, fund raising, maintenance, collecting and collections, special events, etc. Call Judy White's office (482-6610) or Jack Harris (485-2155).

The Foundation has again triumphed in its annual Home Tour - over 300 ticket holders had a rare opportunity to visit five particularly fascinating structures. Guides reported that visitors were pleased, perhaps even surprised, by the quality of the Tour, both in terms of organization and in the splendid selection of houses. New features were the ice cream social on the Gilbert House grounds, run by the Historic East Side Association, and the punch served under the spreading beech at Child and Family Service, presented gratis by the South Side Neighborhood Association with cooperation from McDonald's.

Why ticket sales were down this year from last year's figures remains a mystery. Was it the extreme heat? Was Festival attendance itself down? Or was it because of less news coverage? While the same type of publicity went out from the Foundation, we did not receive special attention or a photograph in the major papers in the area as we did last year. To our knowledge, only the Detroit Monitor published the photograph we sent out, and from this we received several calls for information. Anyone want to research this question and begin work on next year's publicity?

In any case, thanks to all those who made the Tour such a delightful, uplifting, and informative experience for the visitors who passed through the houses: the many hard-working and spirited tour guides, the ticket sellers, the businesses which contributed to the printing of the brochure, the florists whose arrangements graced the homes on Tour, and the home owners themselves who stoically faced the heat of August and opened their doors so generously during Festival. All Ypsilanti owes you thanks - and THANKS AGAIN !!

BUSINESS IS LOOKING UP IN YPSILANTI !

So many improvements to businesses have been made over the past summer months that only a partial list can be included here:

1. Aubrey's fabulous renovation of their Second Floor into a bar and restaurant ...
2. Bill Durant's renovation of his flower shop facade, a project carefully designed to capitalize on the integrity of the original architectural features of the building ...
3. Sioux Shelton's improvements to her building on South Huron across from City Hall where she has moved her Breakaway Travel Agency ...
4. Sidetrack's and Depot Exchange's color magic and other improvements ...
5. Rex and Sally Richie's giant paint project that was so fascinating during Festival - it really sings the blues on the front of what we now best know as the big Miller's Ice Cream building in Depot Town ...
6. All the smaller scale improvements that can't be mentioned in this brief report ... Thanks to all of you !! YPSILANTI IS LOOKING UP !!!

The BEAUTIFUL, NEW 1984 HISTORIC STRUCTURE ENGAGEMENT CALENDAR is out !!!

... and will be available at our next meeting, Tuesday, Sept. 27, and at businesses around town for \$3, a truly unbeatable bargain. These handsome calendars, illustrated by 12 local artists, make wonderful Christmas gifts.

The Board has proposed that each member purchase no less than three calendars to keep, give away, or re-sell. Good idea? Proceeds from calendar sales help fund all Foundation projects - historic structure markers, Newsletter, scholarship, etc.

The OLD HOUSE

They who love an old house
Will never love in vain,
For how can any old house,
Used to sun and rain,
To lilac and to larkspur
and arching trees above,
Fail to give its answer
To hearts that give it love.

(Thanks to Lynn Tabor;
author unknown)

FLOWERS, FLOWERS EVERYWHERE !!!

WELL, almost everywhere ! You would have to be pretty oblivious to your environment not to have noticed the wonderful improvement in the appearance of downtown Ypsilanti made by the planting of bright blooms in the planters and the care obviously lavished on so many of them. We have Bill Durant to thank for the organization and success of this project. Bill was one of that handful of Ypsilanti businesspeople who visited Northville last year, where flower plantings are an integral part of the downtown scene. Northville's floral displays represent a larger community commitment, and we would do well to study their organizational structure. Meanwhile, keep up the good work, Bill and all those who planted and watered planters during those hot summer weeks!

Speaking of flowers, you can't have missed the lush plantings in the window boxes at the Public Library. Jack Harris once showed slides of English gardens to the local Garden Club, among which was one of window-boxes on classical windowsills much like those on our beautiful library: "Why can't we have this here?", he asked. No sooner said than done - thanks to the late Jeanne Jordan. Window boxes did appear, first on the front, and later along the west side. Who knows, maybe they'll crop up on the east side facing the park and fountain. Several workers are to be thanked for this year's success - Fanny Lazarski, Barbara Hale, and most of all, Hugh Speer, who watered and fed the plants faithfully throughout the summer. AND IT SHOWS! Look again at that wonderful sight - before the first frost!

GOODMAN ON BALLOT - Former Ypsilanti Mayor George Goodman is one of eight nominees for member of the Board of Trustees of the Historical Society of Michigan. Six will be chosen. The annual meeting of the Society will be held in Alpena, Sept. 29 - Oct. 1.

NEXT BOARD MEETING:

Wednesday, Oct. 4

7:30 p.m.

Van Bolt's

SPECIAL WINDOW DISPLAYS - Look while they last !!

This is a PLEA: Don't miss at least three of the special window displays which have graced downtown and Depot Town during and since Festival:

First - the winner of the CBC contest, the superb exhibit of antique fans in the window at 210 W. Michigan (next to the adult book store), the work of the folks at Full Circle Community Center.

Second - the Heritage Foundation's display adjacent to the library park and fountain. Thanks to the efforts and imagination of Lis Knibbe and funding provided by the Foundation, this downtown revitalization display is the work of a U of M senior architecture student. The objective is to inform and inspire downtown business people regarding facade improvements. Take a few minutes to study this Foundation project and pass the word along about its location.

Third - Jane Bird's monumental two-panel display on the history of the Cross Street Bridge, past, present and future, in the windows adjacent to the Old Town restaurant. Rumor has it that she will soon dismantle this meticulous, once-in-a-lifetime project. Can anyone come up with a place for permanent display or safe storage? This is an important historical document which should be saved for future generations, as appreciation for our history grows.



Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation

November 1983

NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, November 16 - 7:30 p.m.

PLACE: Ypsilanti Historical Museum
220 North Huron

SPEAKERS: Dr. John Wright, Director of Education
The Edison Institute (Greenfield
Village and Henry Ford Museum)
Ms. Rochelle Balkam, Ypsilanti High School
Mr. Jerry Fouchey, Ypsilanti Public Schools

PROGRAM: The Towner House Children's Museum and Ypsilanti's
Commitment to Teaching Local History in the
Schools

SPONSOR: This program is funded by the Michigan Council for
the Humanities as a part of a larger project to
bring together parents, citizens, teachers,
students and humanists to discuss the value and
purpose of a history-based children's museum.
The Ypsilanti Historical Museum has graciously
allowed us to meet at the Museum for this spe-
cial occasion. The Heritage Foundation will
serve refreshments. Reminder to Heritage Founda-
tion members: this is our annual meeting and
there will be election of Board members.

Please note
day of week
and place !

Dr. Wright, resident of Ypsilanti and Director of Education at the Edison Institute, is himself at work on an enormous MCH sponsored program - a summer Chautauqua at Greenfield Village, 1984. This will be a re-creation of the famous summer camp and tent events which took place all over America in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. They were seen as being culturally and recreationally uplifting, and people attended them for fun as well as for edification. Dr. Wright is a specialist in 'material culture', which in simple terms means the physical world we live in - architecture, artifacts, everything that physically identifies us as a civilization. Local history is dependent upon 'material culture' - witness the superb Historical Museum in which we will meet - a shining

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example of how 'things' can help us understand not only the past, but ourselves as well, and give us a greater sense of identity, a feeling for who we are and where we've come from. Dr. Wright's brief but important share in this program will give us a background for the two others on the program:- Jerry Fouchey, who was Project Facilitator for the now well established Ypsilanti Community History Project, will bring us up to date on what's happening in the Ypsilanti Public Schools in terms of local history - and Ms. 'Ricky' Balkam, who teaches local history at Ypsilanti High School, will demonstrate for us some of the exciting aspects of her class.

This is a chance to learn about and SHOW YOUR SUPPORT for the GOOD THINGS THAT ARE HAPPENING IN OUR SCHOOLS! Be there !!

NEWS from YHF BOARD:

At its October meeting, the Board voted to donate \$1,800 to the Friends of the Towner House Children's Museum to aid in the installation of a much-needed new heating system in the building. Installation should be complete by the time you have this Newsletter and at least half the cost will have been borne by the Heritage Foundation. In keeping with our long-term commitment to the Towner House (it was the catalyst for our coming into being) and our educational goals (& the Children's Museum certainly fits in that category), the Board felt it most appropriate to offer this major gift and our continued support. We urge all members to consider lending their personal support to this new project in the Towner House.

DUES are due !!!

CHRISTINE BLINN OPENS DOLL SHOP

Those of you who missed Chris' Open House on Nov. 1 and as yet haven't seen her charming shop on Michigan Avenue, are urged to stop by and see how she has transformed a small space for her 'little people'. Most of us who have been on Home Tours in the past recall our visit to the Blinn's delightfully restored house on the East Side. Now Chris has done it for downtown & though the space is small, it's a giant step in moving that troubled part of Ypsilanti towards a new vitality. Nestled wisely between Haab's and Materials Unlimited, with weekday hours (except Monday) of 10 am - 4 pm, and Saturday of 5 pm - 9 pm, her pretty shop offers all of us, as well as serious doll collectors, a new place to be proud of in downtown Ypsilanti. Thanks for doing it, Christine!

HOME TOUR SUGGESTIONS WELCOME !!

Those of you who have attended our annual Historic Home Tours best know the kinds and quality of homes (and business structures) we need for next year's home tour. It's not too early to start thinking - if you have specific suggestions, call Jack Harris, 485-2155.

UP-DATE ON WELCH HALL: One year ago at this time the Newsletter appealed to readers to write or call President Porter, call a regent, or write the local papers - Welch Hall was being threatened. The heat was off, workmen were dismantling much of the interior, and a large hole had been knocked through an outside wall, ostensibly to remove equipment.

Although there have been discussions with the Regents, and a committee of students, faculty, administrators and a community resident has met many times, Welch is still threatened, as are the University's other historic structures.

Some hope may be drawn from a move by the Michigan History Division to consider Welch, Starkweather, Sherzer, McKenny and Pease Halls, as part of an EMU Historic District, for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The nomination will be considered by the Michigan Historic Preservation Review Board on December 6, 1983, at 10:00 am in Room 124 at 208 North Capitol Ave., Lansing 48918.

If the owner (EMU) objects to the listing of the property, that objection must be submitted to the Review Board. OTHERS INTERESTED IN COMMENTING ON THE NOMINATION should do so before the December 6 meeting date. This is a chance for Heritage Foundation members to express themselves on this vitally important issue! Eastern has only a small but precious legacy of

its proud history as the oldest teacher training institution west of the Alleghenies. Welch Hall, whose facade still bears a stone plaque reading Normal Training School, 1896, was dedicated the same year as Starkweather Hall and is thus the only other EMU building to come down to us from the 19th century.

If you think Welch, Starkweather, Sherzer, Pease and McKenny Halls should be placed on the National Register of Historic Places, send your statement of support to:

Dr. Martha Bigelow, Director
Michigan History Division
Michigan Department of State
208 North Capitol Avenue
Lansing, Mi. 48918



Coming Soon!

Annual Foundation CHRISTMAS PARTY!

All dues-paid members are cordially invited to the annual Christmas party. If you haven't paid your dues for this year, please send your check now to Jane Bird, acting secretary, at 1302 Collegewood. If you have not received an invitation by December 3, call Jack Harris at 485-2155. Of course, we need your membership, but we also want to share the festivities with you!

LAST REMINDER!

The NEW, BEAUTIFUL 1984 HISTORIC STRUCTURE CALENDAR is available still only \$3, an excellent Christmas gift, and a darned good way to support the Foundation. It makes an easy and often cherished gift for children's teachers, neighbors now moved away, a faithful mailman, a special friend - at a bargain price. Available at the Nov. 16 meeting, or call Jane Van Bolt at 483-6972 or Jane Bird at 482-8989.

SHOP FOR CHRISTMAS IN YPSILANTI - FIRST!

NEXT BOARD MEETING:

Wednesday, December 7
7:30 p.m.
Bill Fennel's
202 South Huron

BAD NEWS - GOOD NEWS!

The bad news is that our indomitable Secretary-Treasurer, Mary Warner, has been hospitalized for an operation. The good news is that two days after the operation she was sitting up entertaining the staff at Beyer Hospital. Keep it up, Mary - we hope you'll be back soon! We NEED you!

TOWNER HOUSE CONFERENCE A SUCCESS!

The October 22, one-day conference which featured sessions devoted to oral history, children's literature, art, artifacts as educational tools, architecture, and drama, was an unqualified success. Thanks to such dedicated volunteers as Sandy Knight, Fanny Lazarski, Doris Milliman, Kathryn and Laverne Howard, and Phil White the Saturday conference, sponsored by the Michigan Council for the Humanities, was a memorable day for the 40+ in attendance.





Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation

January 1984

NEWSLETTER

ASPHALT SIDING AND SHAG CARPET just don't suit Greek Revival and Queen Anne homes. Neither does the standard design of 1950's landscaping - a heavy foundation planting of evergreens with a small concrete patio out in back.

But until recently there was little understanding of how landscaping had changed during the 19th and early 20th centuries, and little help for home-owners who wanted to renovate their yard along with their house. "Overgrown" or "remuddled" seemed to be the only choices.

All that has changed over the past few years, though, and interest in old-fashioned landscaping has begun to, well, bloom! Accordingly, we are pleased to offer an exciting slide presentation at our ...

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, January 24 - 7:30 p.m.

PLACE: The Hutchinson House (High Scope), N. River at E. Forest

SPEAKER: Scott G. Kunst, Historic Landscape Designer

PROGRAM: "Antique Gardens: American Landscaping from 1830 to 1930"

The program will outline the changing styles of gardening through the 19th and early 20th centuries, and offer suggestions for people who would like to develop an "old-fashioned" garden, perhaps to fit the historical style of their own house. The program will feature 19th century illustrations as well as gardens from throughout the Midwest, including many in Ypsilanti.

Some of the topics will be pioneer and Greek Revival gardens (to 1860); Downing landscapes (1850-1880); Victorian carpet-bedding (1870-1910); the English perennial garden (1900-1930); the use of vines; picket, cast-iron and woven-wire fences; flowering shrubs, heirloom flowers, fruits, and vegetables; and Victorian garden ornaments.

The slide show has grown out of Scott's efforts to recreate an appropriate landscape for his 1874 folk-style cottage in the Ypsilanti Historic District, and the subsequent opening of his landscape-design business, Old House Gardens. He is currently working on a

"how-to" book on period landscaping and a catalog of old-fashioned seeds, plants, tools, and garden accessories.

He is also working on garden plans for the Towner House, two house museums in Madison, Indiana, and other private gardens in this area.

THE PROGRAM IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - FREE !!

Call your garden loving friends!

Refreshments will be served!

Major Heritage Foundation
Donation Recognized

The Historical Society of Michigan, in its Jan/Feb newsletter, has made note of the \$1,800 donation from the Foundation to the Friends of the Towner House Children's Museum for installation of a new heating system. That amount was to cover about half the cost of the project. More funds are URGENTLY needed to keep the building in operation during the coming months. The Christmas workshops for children and a Holiday Open House entitled "Christmas at the Mayor's House", which involved students from Ypsilanti High School, were highly successful - an important new plus for Ypsilanti.

NOTEABLE REAL ESTATE LISTINGS:

In an effort to encourage good prospective buyers to invest in Ypsilanti, we will periodically list interesting or significant properties presently on the market, calling them to the attention of our readers, who might pass the word along:

305 Maple: A HF marker structure, this most unusual Queen Anne, now painted warm red with cream trim, is notable for its X-shaped outline and central tower. Listed at \$58,500, Old Town Hall Realty.

318 North Park: A delightful folk-style cottage built just post-Civil War, lovingly rehabilitated by Scott Kunst and wife Jane Raymond, with a lovely, historic garden. Asking price \$39,500, by owner, 482-2188.

If you know of an important structure now on or about to come on the market, call Jack Harris (485-2155) for inclusion in the March NEWSLETTER.

HF Board Member, JOHN VAN BOLT,
Runs for CITY COUNCIL !!

Historic home owner in Ypsilanti since 1974, lawyer, member of the Historic District Commission, and Heritage Foundation board member John Van Bolt has announced his candidacy for City Council for the Fourth Ward. Since, as many readers know, the Van Bolts have been committed to Ypsilanti and to the preservation and improvement of property for a number of years - you may have seen their wonderful Carpenter Gothic house on Home Tour - this is a good time to support a candidate clearly dedicated to a better Ypsilanti. The Primary Election will be decisive, so don't forget - encourage everyone you know living in Ward 4 to vote at Kingston Center (Forest at Adams) on Monday, Feb. 20.

410 Oak: Want a wee cottage - cheap? Have a look at this little charmer, once a one-room school, and imagine what you could do with it, including having Scott Kunst design a cottage garden! Only \$22,900 at Old Town Hall Realty.

712 Emmet: Our most ambitious & loyal marigold sale supporters, Roe & Flossie Bennett, have this one for sale - perfect for an EMU staff member, right next door to the campus! \$55,000, Old Town Hall.

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Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation

March 1984

NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, March 27 - 7:30 p.m.

PLACE: The Hutchinson House (High/Scope)
600 North River (corner of River and Forest)

SPEAKER: Dr. Albert P. Marshall, Emeritus Professor
Eastern Michigan University

"Using Oral History as a Background to Ypsilanti's
Afro-American History"

Professor Marshall, retired educator from Eastern Michigan University, has delved into the history of Afro-Americans in Ypsilanti since his arrival here in 1969. With little upon which to build, he structured his research on oral interviews with selected persons in the area. His collection of over 40 interviews, along with other information gleaned from newspapers, books, and provided by individuals, has now been placed in the Archives of the Ypsilanti Historical Museum. His presentation will include a demonstration of the tape recording process in collecting oral history.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC -- FREE

Refreshments will be served, under the direction of our new Refreshments Chairperson, Dr. Judith Williston. Thanks, Judy, for this important new commitment!

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANKS !

Dr. A. P. Marshall has announced his resignation from the Ypsilanti Historic District Commission in order to take up his new appointment on the Civil Service Commission. Those of us who have worked with A. P. on the HDC know well his integrity and wisdom. We know he will serve the Civil Service Commission with those same fine qualities. Congratulations, A. P., on your new appointment!

UPDATE ON WELCH HALL:

The Welch Hall committee still continues to meet but has yet to come to a decision about the fate of Welch Hall (1896). The structure was apparently one of the topics of discussion at a recent Regents' retreat in Lansing. The Eastern Echo (March 14) reports that Robert Romkema, Vice President for Business & Finance, reported that there is "great sentimental value" attached to the building and that the Welch Hall committee "is being very objective".

Romkema also said, however, that the initial response from students and alumni appears to be that of "disinterest". Perhaps it's time to ask how much information has been disclosed about the history, architectural value, and economic merit of the oldest building on campus. NOW is the time to challenge the charge of "disinterest". Write to the Eastern Echo, The Editor, EMU, Ypsilanti, MI 48197.

NEW MEMBER:

Diane Wilson, Dept of English, EMU
Diane, a graduate student in Historic Preservation, has been a major contributor to the sesquicentennial celebration newspaper for Canton Township, Time Capsule Edition. Her historical research is impressive. Let's lure her into working on Ypsilanti history projects! Welcome, Diane.

MIRACLE ON ST. JOHN'S STREET:

The next time you're in the area of the EMU campus, turn up St. John's from Lowell and take a look at the miracle that has taken place there. The one surviving Victorian house.

REAL ESTATE: WE MADE A SALE !!

Those of you who saw the Jan. issue of the Newsletter know that we have begun to list interesting or significant properties presently on the market, in an effort to increase awareness of the possibilities for prospective buyers of real estate in Ypsilanti. We hope to encourage more home ownership and owner occupancy of rental property in our community.

Well, already we have had success! Warren Lewis has bought the "wee cottage" at 410 Oak, an old schoolhouse. Congratulations, Warren! (Home Tour in 1985?)

MORE REAL ESTATE LISTINGS:

504 N. Hamilton: Barry & Diane LaRue's former home (a Home Tour house), an 1889 modified Queen Anne. Duplex efficiency apartment provides income. Beautiful woodwork, wallpaper, new kitchen & bath. Fenced backyard. \$46,500. Call Tom Warner, Old Town Hall Realty.

312 Washtenaw: Clapboard classic - over 100 years old. Hardwood floors, 4-5 bedrooms, 1½ baths, fiberglass insulation, new plumbing. \$53,000. Call Bill Miller, Old Town Hall.

408 Emmet: Here is a house with old-time character & charm, small enough & practical enough to be sensible for today. Lovely natural woodwork, fireplace, sun-filled dining room, with bay window facing west. Basement with enormous potential, garden space on corner lot. Washer, dryer, freezer stay, \$47,000. Call Barbara Johnston, Charles Reinhart Realtor, 665-0300.

MIRACLE ON ST. JOHN'S STREET:

The next time you're in the area of the EMU campus, turn up St. John's from Lowell and take a look at the miracle that has taken place there. The one surviving Victorian house, which in recent years had fallen into a shambles and finally burned, has been restored and is now painted a gleaming white. No details about the restoration are known at this time except that the owner is James Johnson of Middle Drive, Ypsilanti, that the house will probably be rented to students, and that the contractor is J. Abramson Co. of Oak Park. Mr. Boston Pritchard & Mr. Bill Foster have been in charge of the restoration.
To all concerned - THANK YOU!

COMING ATTRACTION:

The 3rd Annual Buffet Pot Luck Dinner will be held this year on Tuesday, May 22, at 6:00 p.m., at the Ladies Literary Club, 218 N. Washington.

The special event of the evening will be the Annual Presentation of Historic Structure Markers. The owners of marker buildings will be our special, honored guests.

Anyone (member or non-member) wishing to attend, please call Sandy Knight at 483-5749.

fireplace, sun-filled dining room, with bay window facing west. Basement with enormous potential, garden space on corner lot. Washer, dryer, freezer stay, \$47,000. Call Barbara Johnston, Charles Reinhart Realtor, 665-0300.

YPSILANTI HISTORIC DISTRICT

- MANY NATIONALLY KNOWN HOMES -
AMONG THEM THIS HOME ON ADAMS STREET



3,000 square feet of living space, 2 fireplaces, living, dining and family rooms, hardwood floors, 3 bedrooms, 2 kitchens, one bedroom apartment on third floor, four car garage, and large backyard with winding walk. This has the potential to be one of the area's truly great homes!! Priced in 60's!!

A MEMBER OF THE SEARS FINANCIAL NETWORK

**COLDWELL
BANKER**

TOM WARNER

Residence **483-7461**

Ypsilanti **485-7600**

300 N. HURON

**OLD TOWN HALL
REALTY**

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

INSTREET PROGRAM DOWNTOWN:

The Mainstreet Program, sponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, has been responsible for many revitalization programs in towns across the country. Now Ypsilanti joins those communities committed to developing a coordinated plan for bringing life back into downtown. The program deals not only with physical appearance but also management structure, financing, & marketing. It encourages development of new business on the basis of community needs. The Downtown Development Authority has agreed to fund the hiring of a professional coordinator to develop the plan for downtown Ypsilanti.

NEWS SUMMARY from NATIONAL TRUST:

Administration Budget Zeroes
Out Historic Preservation For
The Fourth Year

Washington, D.C., February 23 ...

For the fourth year, the Reagan Administration has failed to recommend any federal budget for the Historic Preservation Fund. The Fund is used to make matching grants to the states and the National Trust for Historic Preservation to do the work of preserving America's heritage.

"I am very disappointed that the Administration has ignored the strong commitment of both the American people and their representatives in the Congress to this program," said Michael L. Ainslie, president of the National Trust. "Do they believe that this country cannot afford 26 ten thousandths of one percent of the Federal budget for the preservation & revitalization of our heritage?" That is the percentage of the total federal budget for fiscal year 1985 - \$925 billion - represented by last year's Congressional appropriation - \$26.5 million, Ainslie explained.

The fiscal year 1984 appropriation of \$26.5 million included \$21.5 million

HOME TOUR PLANS UNDERWAY:

Planning for the 1984 Annual Historic Homes Tour, sponsored by the Foundation, got underway last month. Members of the committee are Chair Jane Van Bolt, Jack Harris, Jane Bird, and Bill Nickels. Chief guides are already committed & buildings are being selected. This is not a decorators' home tour - this is the REAL THING - an exciting, inside look at preservation, renovation and adaptive re-use projects going on right now in our great city! Plan now to participate in and to publicize this important contribution to the Ypsilanti Heritage Festival. Watch for details in the May Newsletter. DOZENS OF VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!! Please call Jane Van Bolt, 483-6972.

con't.

historic rehabilitation to finance the rehabilitation of their buildings. "We are confident that the Congress will understand the problems of such building owners and help address this important but unmet need."

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is a national, private, non-profit membership organization dedicated to the protection and continued use of significant buildings, districts, sites and objects in America.

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD!

Write now to . . .

Sen. Carl M. Levin
140 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Sen. Donald W. Riegle
1207 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Rep. William D. Ford (for Ypsilanti)
239 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The fiscal year 1984 appropriation of \$26.5 million included \$21.5 million for the state historic preservation programs & \$5 million for the National Trust. \$500,000 of the National Trust's allocation is being used for the special Critical Issues Fund, a \$2 million grant program promoting new, cooperative approaches to major development problems.

"We in the historic preservation movement are hopeful that the members of Congress will again demonstrate their commitment to the country's heritage in the appropriations process," added Ainslie. "We will also be working to reinstate funds for the 'bricks-and-mortar' matching grants the Administration eliminated in fiscal 1982. Ainslie explained that these are particularly important to the non-profit groups and public agencies that cannot use the 1981 federal tax incentives for
con't ...

Washington, D.C. 20515

ADOPT A PLANTER - Call Bill Durant:

Any individual or group interested in adopting a planter in the downtown area should call Bill Durant of Durant's Flowers. Bill reports that, while most of the planters will be cared for by individual businesses, there are several spots where help is needed from community volunteers. For example, the planter in the parking lot along Ferris Street off S. Huron, the Chandler Fountain area near the Library, and city parking lots generally. This would be a gesture of community commitment to the downtown & would be seen as a definite plus to those downtown businessmen like Bill who are working hard to make the place a success. Planting will be about mid-May.

HISTORIC EAST SIDE WALKING TOUR:

Peckville, Oak Street, the Hutchinson Mansion, & the old-fashioned garden of Bill & Genie Knudstrup are all featured on this year's guided walking tour of Ypsilanti's Historic East Side.

Celebrating National Historic Preservation Week, the guided walk will be on Sunday, May 6, with small groups leaving every quarter-hour between 1:00 and 3:00 from the old passenger depot in Depot Town (N. River at E. Cross). 13

Peckville is one of the oldest areas in Ypsilanti, centered on the Peck farmstead which dates from 1827. Oak Street features a full range of 19th century homes, including Knudstrup's Greek Revival with its beautifully landscaped 200-foot-deep backyard. The Hutchinson Mansion, now headquarters for High/Scope Education Research Foundation, was the turn-of-the-century home of Byron Shelley Hutchinson, founder of S&H Green Stamps. This beautifully-preserved, thirty-three room mansion set in parl-like grounds is noted for ornate wood and plasterwork, stained glass, a porte-cochere, ballroom, conservatory, and a dining room modeled after one in Kaiser Wilhelm's castle.

Specially trained guides will point out architectural styles and details on the walk, as well as features of city and neighborhood history, much of which is related to the railroad and the Huron River. Guides will also show tour-goers through the Knudstrup's garden and the Hutchinson Mansion.

The walk is sponsored by the Historic East Side Association and it is free.

For more information, call 484-3425

FOR SALE:

Victorian picture frame, excellent condition, 7 3/4" x 9 3/4" opening. \$5

Antique sled. \$30

Call Jane Bird, 482-8989

TOWNER HOUSE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM PROGRAMS SCHEDULED:

The Heritage Foundation funds which went to install a new furnace in the Towner House have already proven a particularly wise investment. After a series of highly successful Christmas programs and a rewarding and busy Valentine workshop (on Feb. 11, when the house was full of intensely busy little hands and heads, all engrossed in the business of creating historic valentines, jumping jacks, and other traditional items), Judy White now announces two more new & exciting workshops for children:

Saturday, March 24

1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

WORKSHOP on the Living History of Children's Toys and Games:

This will be a hands-on group participation activity conducted by Marge Mitchell of Plymouth. Marge - for those who missed her brilliant talk to the Foundation in Sept - is the finest authority known to us on the subject of making history come alive for children. ANYONE WHO HAS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPOSE THEIR CHILD TO MARGE'S TEACHING SHOULD NOT MISS IT! Please tell friends & neighbors about this important event.

--- AND ---

The EMU Theatre of the Young will offer a dramatization of The History of Children's Games. This should prove a treat! Don't let those kids you love miss it!

Saturday, April 14

1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

WORKSHOP: FUN WITH PUPPETS, A Living History Presentation by EMU's Theatre of the Young

There is no charge for any of the programs at the Towner House. All are welcome. Simply show up at 303 N. Huron, across the street from Old Town Hall.



Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation

MAY 1984

NEWSLETTER

- NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, May 22, 1984 - 6:30 p.m.
PLACE: LADIES' LITERARY CLUB, 118 North Washington (corner Emmet)
SPECIAL EVENT: 3rd Annual Awards Banquet - Pot Luck Style
HISTORIC STRUCTURE MARKER AWARDS

In the May 1975 issue of this little newsletter only a small note records the historic inauguration of our now well-known Historic Structure Marker Award program. They were, apparently, then called "Recognition Markers", and Dottie Disbrow was chairperson of a distinguished committee of judges: Evangeline Lewis, Doyne Wolfe, and Omer and Elsie Robbins. Six buildings received markers: "These will be our first presentations and plans call for about the same number of presentations following each of our quarterly meetings".

While our number of meetings soon expanded to five (January was added in 1977), our marker program has remained essentially as it was conceived.

For the past ten years, then, a special committee of the Heritage Foundation has taken the responsibility of searching out those structures in Ypsilanti which they believe merit "Historic Structure" marker awards. Since the essential purpose of the program is to encourage restoration and maintenance of properties, the committee members must become eagle-eyes of the community, searching out those buildings which show either consistently excellent maintenance or especially fine restoration or renovation work recently done. For the owner, the marker is a BIG THANKS FOR A JOB WELL DONE; for others, especially visitors to our increasingly recognized historic town, it says WE KNOW WE HAVE SOMETHING SPECIAL AND WE'RE PROUD OF IT!

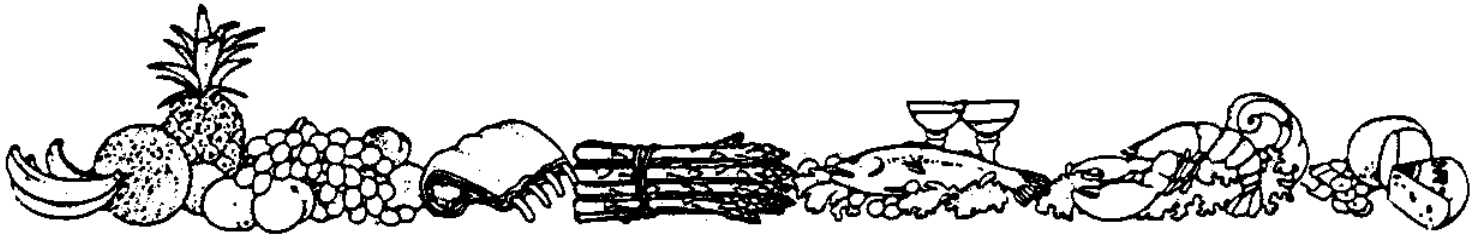
Don Randazzo, Chairperson, with his committee, Bill Nickels, Jane Bird, and Sandy Knight, have selected from a long list of prospective marker properties a list of eight to receive awards this spring. The Foundation Board has approved and owners have accepted receipt of the markers under conditions laid down by the Foundation. Now comes the Banquet and the Awards Ceremony. How could you miss it?

The membership list will be used to call and arrange for a variety of tasty dishes. If for any reason you have not been called - WHETHER YOU ARE A MEMBER OR NOT - and you wish to attend this special historic event, simply give Sandy a call at 483-5749.

(Marker recipients are NOT, of course, expected to bring a dish, since they are our special guests!)

The owners of the following buildings will be awarded Historic Structure Markers and will be our very special GUESTS OF HONOR:

Mr. Tom Conway	The Old Fire Station (Historic Car Museum) West Cross at Washington
Mrs. Mame Lamson	114 Woodward (c. 1895)
First Congregational Church	214 North Adams (c. 1898)
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Diepenhorst	209 North Summit (c. 1860)
Mr. & Mrs. Terry Webster	332 Oak (c. 1860)
Mr. John Madden	96 Oakwood (c. 1920)
Mr. Steve Gross & Ms. Linda French	The Depot Exchange (c. 1870)
Mr. William Durant	Durant's Flowers, 115 West Michigan (c. 1900)



Remember, dinner at 6:30 - no business meeting, no speaker, just a social gathering where everyone can exchange views about what's happening in our town - and lots of good things are happening! Join us!!

YPSILANTI HERITAGE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED AT EMU

The Foundation has again awarded a \$500 scholarship to an EMU student. Cynthia Martin, a major in historic preservation, has been recommended by Dr. Marshall McLennan, Director of the Historic Preservation Program, and accepted by the Board of the Foundation as this year's recipient. Cynthia presently serves as intern to the Historic District Commission. The scholarship will ensure that she will continue serving as Commission intern and as liason between the Community Development Department and the Commission through August 1984.

FESTIVAL KICK-OFF:

The Festival 1984 Kick-Off Party, held May 6 at Aubree's Upstairs, was a delightful send-off for this year's event, to be held Aug. 24-25-26. Volunteers are needed, so call the Chamber of Commerce if you want to be part of the fun. NOTE: Special thanks should go to Lynda Hummel for her exciting slide presentation of the demolition of the old Cross Street bridge. We hope that more people will be able to see this program at some later date. Thanks for recording this bit of our history, Lynda!

STATE AWARD for YPSILANTI:

Nathalie Edmunds, co-chair of the Heritage Festival, has received a letter from Governor Blanchard, in which he announced, "It is my great pleasure to inform you that I am naming the Ypsilanti Heritage Festival as an Embassy of Tourism". The award is one of five presented this year and is based upon the contribution that the Heritage Festival has made to tourism in the state over the past several years. Nat will accept the award from the Governor on behalf of the Festival Committee at the First Annual Governor's Conference on Tourism at the Hyatt-Regency in Flint, May 14.

THE VICTORIAN SOCIETY OF AMERICA TO VISIT YPSILANTI IN JUNE !!

Watch your local newspaper for more information about this event!

NAT EDMUNDS RECEIVES AWARD:

Nathalie Edmunds has received congratulations for her volunteer work in the community from the President of the Greater Michigan Foundation in Lansing. She is one of ten recipients state-wide to receive the Volunteer Leadership Award for 1984, to be presented by the Governor in Marshall, May 22. Congratulations, Nat - we know how much you deserve it!

WIDGE BALLUSTER SALE A SUCCESS

Thanks to the hard work of Foundation volunteers and the commitment of Sue Remien-Fejes, Director of Community Development for the City of Ypsilanti, and with cooperation from Greenfield Construction Company, builders of the new Cross Street Bridge, the balusters from the old (1910) bridge were saved and most have been sold.

The Foundation has ear-marked profits from the sale for the scholarship fund, and therefore all profits received from the sale will directly benefit the city. Thanks to those who worked so diligently at the sale! Yet another bit of BEAUTIFUL OLD YPSILANTI was saved and the city and the Foundation have benefited in the process!

MAJOR CONFERENCE COMING TO YPSILANTI

A five-state, regional historic preservation conference will take place Sept. 28-29 at the Hoyt Conference Center on the EMU campus.

Co-sponsored by the National Trust of Historic Preservation, the National Alliance of Preservation Commission, and the Michigan Historic District Commissions Network, conference subjects will include design issues and administration of historic districts and historic district ordinances. Speakers will be drawn from across the country.

We are proud to be able to host this important event. Volunteers will be needed for a variety of activities as the conference nears - please keep those dates in mind so that you will be free to participate!

REAL ESTATE LISTINGS:

ANNUAL HISTORIC HOME TOUR:

With pleasure and pride, we announce the homes and apartments which will be open during the 1984 Historic Home Tour:

Bettie and Tom Dodd
46 East Cross

Sharon Morris
46 East Cross

John & Melissa Schneider
411 North Huron

Constance Crump & Russ Procacini
409 North Adams

Bonnie Deutsch & Ed Penet
108 North Huron

Sioux Shelton
14 South Huron

The Beyer House Apartments (2)
203 North Huron

Chief Guides have been appointed. If you would like to volunteer as a tour guide (& thereby receive a free ticket for the tour), call Jane Van Bolt, 483-6972.

TOUR: Sunday, August 26, Noon-5:00 p.m.



REAL ESTATE LISTINGS:

323 Oak: Late 19th Century house (c. 1896) in central area of Historic District on the east side; splendidly renovated, with \$20,000 addition in 1981-82; finest quality kitchen with Jenn-Air, built-ins and oak cupboards; stone fireplace, with wood burning unit which heats entire new section. Original part of house restored inside and out. Featured in February issue of Ann Arbor News Homes section. Call 662-5846.

On Sheridan: Near EMU campus, room for rent in historic home, built 1840; share the many fine features of this historic house; fenced backyard, sunporch. Call 662-5846.

411 North Huron: Italianate house, adjacent to the Lewis museum property; 3 units - two one-bedroom, one two-bedroom. Newly refurbished exterior and interior. In Historic District. \$72,000. Call Tom Warner at Old Town Hall Realty, 485-7600 or 483-7461.

103 North Adams: Venerable, painted brick Gothic Revival mansion in Historic District, built c. 1856. Owner-occupied with 2 income apartments; hardwood floors, inlaid with walnut; three fireplaces, marble; chandeliers; private fenced backyard; two car garage; natural gas, new furnace; many energy efficient features. Protected by the Historic District Ordinance and superbly maintained! On Heritage Foundation Home Tour, 1980. \$115,000. Call 485-8878.



SPECIAL THANKS to Denis Schmiedeke: Prints of his beautiful drawing of the old Cross Street bridge were sold during the baluster sale at the Freight House and the profits were split between the artist and the Foundation. We are very grateful for Denis' generosity!

TO OUR NEW CITY MANAGER, JAMES W. M. (MATT) HENNESSEE, WELCOME TO YPSILANTI !!





CITY OF YPSILANTI, MICHIGAN

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

1 SOUTH HURON STREET

YPSILANTI, MICHIGAN 48197

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS: *Preservation and rehabilitation have contributed to the economic and social well-being of our cities, towns and communities by increasing the tax bases, decreasing crime and creating solid investment opportunities in historic districts and neighborhoods; and*
- WHEREAS: *Preservation increases the value of the public's investment in historic public and private buildings, streets, sidewalks and parks, and affords basic shelter requirements to vast numbers of low-and moderate-income households; and*
- WHEREAS: *Preservation makes good financial sense through the rehabilitation and reuse of well constructed historic buildings and improves them, thereby prolonging their years in service; and*
- WHEREAS: *PRESERVATION IS TAKING CARE OF AMERICA, is the theme for Preservation Week 1984, cosponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the local preservation and neighborhood organizations in Ypsilanti, Michigan.*


NOW, THEREFORE, I, PETER J. MURDOCK, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI, do hereby proclaim May 13-19, 1984, as

" PRESERVATION WEEK "

in the City of Ypsilanti and call upon the people of Ypsilanti to recognize and participate in this special observance.



Given under my hand and seal of
the City of Ypsilanti, this 1st
day of May, 1984.


Peter J. Murdock
Mayor



Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation

September 1984

NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, September 25, 7:30 p.m.

PLACE: YPSILANTI ANTIQUE AUTO, TRUCK & FIRE MUSEUM
(Old Fire Station)
100 West Cross (corner of Washington)

SPEAKER: Mr. Tom D. Conway, Owner and Curator of the Museum

Mr. Conway was one of the first to take the plunge in purchasing an historic property from the City when its holdings in the North Huron Street area came up for sale several years ago. He must be credited, therefore, for an important part in the renaissance of central Ypsilanti. Not only did he save Ypsilanti's historic fire station from some certainly poorer fate, perhaps even demolition, but he also transformed it into one of our most important museum properties - albeit a private museum, open only for special occasions.

The next special occasion for which the Fire Museum will be open (after Heritage Festival, of course) will be the meeting of the Heritage Foundation, open to the public, free. Mr. Conway will host our first fall meeting and talk with us about his unique vehicle collection and his renovation of the old fire station as a perfect setting for it. After a tour of the ground floor, we will meet upstairs. This will be a unique opportunity to hear first hand from Mr. Conway about his collection and about the property in which it is housed. You can't get much closer to the subject of historic preservation than that !

Refreshments will be provided by the Foundation - Dr. Judith Williston is our new refreshments hostess.

PLEASE TELL YOUR FRIENDS ABOUT THIS FUN AND INFORMATIVE MEETING. Mr. Conway radiates enthusiasm. "I'm going ... You come, too", as Robert Frost invited. We know you won't be disappointed !

1985 HISTORIC STRUCTURE ENGAGEMENT CALENDAR - NOW ON SALE - STILL ONLY \$3.00 !!!

The 10th Edition of the Heritage Foundation's Calendar, which features 12 local artists' illustrations of Ypsilanti's architectural heritage, will be on sale during Festival and at our September meeting, as well as at several local outlets.

This year's Calendar features several E.M.U. campus buildings, including historic Welch Hall, as well as the work of a new (and prominent) local artist, Professor John Loree.

A very beautiful, practical, useful gift - for yourself and friends at Christmas !

YPSILANTI'S NEW MIDTOWN ASSOCIATION GAINS MOMENTUM:

The Midtown Association, which includes essentially all of Ward 4, roughly from Summit to North Huron and Forest to West Michigan, took on powerful new status this summer with the election of officers, passage of by-laws, and establishment of three committees to work on specific problem areas: code enforcement, crime, and zoning.

For an update on activities, call Keith Fineberg, President, 482-7148.

ALSO WORTH THE TRIP ...

The stunning restoration of the Board of Realtors building at 47 North Huron. Downtown is looking better all the time !
Congratulations, and THANKS !!

WORTH WATCHING !!!

The false facade has come down at Ypsi Cycle, 118 West Michigan, and owner Ralph Ellis is in the process of repairing repainting the handsome Gothic Revival building underneath! Just helps to prove what has been claimed all these years - there are a lot of architectural treasures under all that junk on Michigan Ave!

THANKS, Ypsi Cycle, for a splendid improvement to downtown.

JACK HARRIS TO TEACH IN ENGLAND:

The president of the Heritage Foundation will be teaching in England during the fall term this year. His address is:

Arthur J. Harris
Nonington College
Nonington, Dover, Kent
England CT15 4HH

Telephone: 44-840671

MANY thanks to all those who volunteered to work on the Heritage Festival HISTORIC HOME TOUR !!



\$5.00 \$5.00

SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP OFFER

\$5.00 \$5.00

The Foundation Board has voted to offer NEW membership at the special rate of \$5.00 for the first year. This includes receipt of the Newsletter and announcements about all special events sponsored by the Foundation. (Regular individual memberships are still \$10, family \$15, students and senior citizens \$3.)

Why not join now? If you are already a member in good standing, now is the time to renew your dues and be assured that you will receive the Newsletter, be invited to the Christmas party, etc.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Zip _____

Make checks payable to:
Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation

Mail to:
Mary Warner, Treasurer
510 Roosevelt
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation
510 Pearl Street
Ypsilanti, MI 48197



Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation

NOVEMBER 1984

NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, November 27 - 7:30 pm
PLACE: Ladies Literary Club, 218 N. Washington
(corner of Emmet)
SPEAKER: Denis Schmiedeke, Ypsilanti architect
PRESENTATION: "The Styles of Our Heritage"
The Historic Architecture of Ypsilanti

We are very pleased to offer the opportunity to see this presentation, first prepared for the five-state historic preservation conference held here in September. "The Styles of Our Heritage" is an overview of 110 years of the historical styles of architecture built in Ypsilanti from 1830 through 1940, and will include 17 nationally recognized styles from the Federal of the 1830s through the Period Revivals of 1920 to 1940. Attention will be given those styles which became popular after 1900, in recognition of a design consciousness which prevailed in this community well beyond the turn of the century.

Using 3 projectors and 3 screens, Denis will present some 100 structures built throughout the city, from Prospect Street to Cornell, from Buffalo to Highland Cemetery. Some of the structures are well known examples of popular styles, others are excellent examples of less known types. This evening is an outstanding opportunity to become more aware of the architectural heritage of Ypsilanti.

Bring friends and neighbors - all are welcome. Refreshments will be provided!

WELCOME to NEW MEMBERS:

Dennis Durkin
1186 Stamford
Ypsilanti

Bonni Rosen-Fine
27 E. Cross
Ypsilanti



1985 HISTORIC STRUCTURE CALENDAR

Still only \$3.00 !!

A GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT...

for the kids' teachers, a friend now moved away, favorite neighbors, the mailman, etc, etc, etc!

Buy your calendars at the Nov. 27 meeting, at Meijers, Bailes Pharmacy, Old Town Restaurant, Hon's Flowers, Richardson's, or at the Freight House in Depot Town Dec. 1. (Meijers was particularly helpful by purchasing outright 200 calendars for sale at the Carpenter Rd store. And Washtenaw Kmart contributed \$20 toward calendar production costs.

ANNUAL MEETING

November is the month of our annual brief business meeting. The following items of business will require a vote of the general membership:

1. The Board of Directors has recommended that the number of Board members be reduced from 12 to 9.
2. The terms of Jane Bird and Bill Nickels expire this month. Both have agreed to stand for reelection.
3. Denis Schmiedeke was appointed to the Board this past summer by President Jack Harris to an unexpired vacancy.

The general membership will be asked to confirm the reduction in Board size, the reelection of Jane and Bill, and the appointment of Denis.

PRESERVATION NEWS

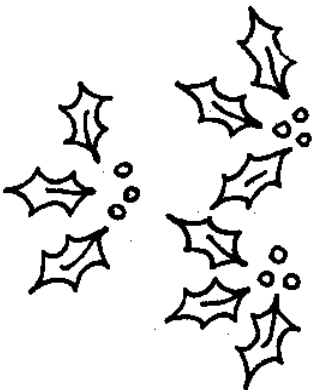
Charles Soule and Karl Andrews are to be congratulated on their purchase of Old Town Hall from the National Bank. All buildings continually need the loving care they are sure to give our most impressive Second Empire structure.

While traveling down Michigan Ave, notice the completion of work on the library. Also take time to admire the new paint job on the Hawkins House across the street, and on the Mainstreet Project office in the first block of S. Washington.

Instead of children playing soccer, construction equipment has made the noise on Frog Island this fall, and the new amphitheatre is already complete. The recycling center, temporarily removed, will open again at a new site near the Farmers' Market.

And, in Depot Town, admire (and patronize!) the new addition to an old favorite, the Old Town Restaurant.

CHRISTMAS PARTY !!



Keep Saturday night, December 15, open on your holiday calendar! That is the night of the annual Heritage Foundation Christmas Party. Invitations will be in the mail to all dues paying members.

Dues (\$10 individual, \$15 family) may be sent to Mary Warner, Treasurer, 510 Roosevelt, Ypsilanti.

