



The Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation

Heritage News

945 Sheridan | Ypsilanti, MI 48197

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Heritage News is the newsletter of the Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation. It is published and distributed, free of charge, to the membership by mail, and made available to the public in various locations in the City.

Save these Dates

■ **40th Annual Home Tour** Sunday, June 25, 2017

■ **Marker Banquet** Wednesday, September 20, 2017

was actually designed with colleague, Houston Colvin, and was created for a family friend while he was still at the College of Architecture and Design at the University of Michigan.

Shortly after graduation and beginning his architectural practice, Ward was called upon to serve as an architect for the U.S. Military in Mexico from 1942 to 1945. Swarts resumed his independent architectural practice in Ypsilanti after returning from Mexico in 1945. He designed houses and public buildings predominantly in the Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti area until 1956 when he formed a partnership with Gwen Morhous. Together, they operated under the name of Swarts and Morhous until 1958.

Local public buildings designed by Ward Swarts include the Ypsilanti Board of Commerce, the Dr. Harris Medical Building, Trinity Baptist Church, and the Ypsilanti Police Station. In 1959, Swarts left Michigan and his architectural practice behind to accept the position of Director of Architectural Projects at Colonial Williamsburg. Here he served in this capacity from 1960 until 1971 when he was forced to retire due to complications from a burst appendix three years prior. During this time in Virginia, Ward and LaRae raised their two children Stephen, and Susan, and saw them graduate from the College of William and Mary.

Ward and LaRae Swarts returned home to Ypsilanti, Michigan in 1973 after a fourteen year absence. That year marked a new beginning for once more serving their local community. LaRae served as the Museum Director at the Ypsilanti Historical Society for four years, and both Ward and LaRae served on the Board of Directors of the Ypsilanti Historical Society. In this capacity, Ward spent countless hours providing architectural advice to local historic home owners. As a restoration architect, he was also involved in the creation of the Ypsilanti Historic District in 1973. He also designed the space that currently holds the Ypsilanti Room and former Gift Shop at the museum. In 1977, Ward and LaRae Swarts moved back to Reston, Virginia to finish out their retirement in a warmer climate and live close their daughter, Susan. Ward passed away in 1979.

(Michael Newberry graduated with a Masters degree in Historic Preservation from Eastern Michigan University).

Don't miss visiting Ypsilanti's museums

Michigan Firehouse Museum 110 W. Cross St.

Ypsilanti Automotive Heritage Museum 100 E. Cross St.

Ypsilanti Historical Museum & Archives 200 N. Huron St.

Yankee Air Museum Willow Run Airport

Heritage NEWS



SPRING 2017



Ward G. Swarts Local Architect

By Michael Newberry
Reprinted with permission
The Gleanings Spring 2010

Ward G. Swarts, local architect, designed over fifty residential houses in southeast Michigan from 1939 to 1959. At least forty of these houses were built in Ypsilanti and nine were built in Ann Arbor. Many of his house designs produced contemporary buildings with a traditional and symmetrical approach. Many of his floor plans were traditional as well (center hall plans etc.).

Ward Swarts was born in Auburn, Indiana in 1906 and married LaRae Foote, also from Auburn, on September 2, 1928. Ward began his college career as a Pre-Med student at DePauw University but soon discovered his love for architecture after dissecting frogs didn't pan out so well. Shortly after they were married, Ward and LaRae moved to Ann Arbor, Michigan, and Ward began attending classes at the College of Architecture and Design at the University of Michigan. Ward received his degree from the University of Michigan in 1935, and the couple moved to Port Huron to wait the required time before taking the State Board examination for Architects. Upon passing the board examination, Ward and LaRae moved to Ypsilanti where Ward set up an independent practice. His first house

2017 Historic Home Tour Focusing on Local Architect Ward Swarts

The upcoming 2017 Historic Home Tour, will be held on Sunday, June 25. This year the tour will present an architectural tour of Ward Swarts' homes in the Ypsilanti area. These are mid-century designed homes with a contemporary flair for the time they were built, as well as traditional floor plans accommodating his clients wants and needs quite well. At least forty homes have been identified in the Ypsilanti area and we will be showcasing four of those homes

and a few other venues we're sure you'll enjoy. Homeowner Kathy Bodary and her husband Mike are proud owners of one of these homes, and will be opening their home up this year for tour goers.

If you are interested in volunteering or becoming a sponsor for the upcoming home tour please fill out the form on page 3 or contact MJ Dennison (482-6140 mjdogpwr@gmail.com) and get involved.

• *Save the Date* •

40th Annual
Historic Architectural
Home Tour
Sunday, June 25th

Each year the Heritage Foundation compiles a list of “Good News” in Ypsilanti. This year we once again have quite a list of good things that are happening in our neighborhoods.

216 North Washington, major repair of small, historic, one of a kind barn.

116 & 118 West Michigan, the former Ypsilanti bicycle shop, is constructing new historically appropriate storefronts.

The Thompson Building was sold in January 2017, to Jon Carlson and his partner Greg Lobdell, of the Ann Arbor-based development company 2mission. They have had crews and structural engineers inspecting and evaluating the building to see what can be saved and what needs immediate repair.

219 North Huron, our only cobblestone house, has appropriate new front steps and railings – well done!

At 10 North Washington the inappropriate wooden ‘awning’ has been removed and the original façade revealed and restored – looking good!



The former Ted’s Electric at 307 North River is now the home of Cultivate Coffee & Tap House and across the street, at 306 North River, Hyperion Coffee Company is flourishing. Stop by!

At Highland Cemetery, in partnership with DTE, a large array of solar panels has been installed at the extreme northeast end of the property. The resulting annual payments from DTE will fund some of the cemetery’s most pressing needs.



Ypsilanti Freighthouse booked its first event on March 14th received news that The City of Ypsilanti, MI and the Friends of the Ypsilanti Freighthouse have been selected to receive a joint Michigan Historic Preservation Network 2017 Government/Institution Award for the Restoration of the Ypsilanti Freighthouse. “The award is presented to agencies, cities and/or institutions who by their actions have accomplished significant positive changes in the historic preservation climate and activities which have made a significant contribution to the preservation of Michigan’s heritage.” Congratulations to the City of Ypsi and to the hardworking FOYF Board of Directors!

The Starkweather Chapel is receiving some much needed repairs for it’s stablization. Plans are in the works to restore the chapel so it can be used again.

New windows have been installed at the Riverside Arts Center Off Center on North Huron – the existing original transoms have been retained. The Off Center has also installed a new furnace and air conditioning as well as drapes for acoustics and sun glare. It has also become the main headquarters of FLY Children’s Art Center.

New murals around the city. City Hall, Ypsilanti Community High School Murals at Curries Barbershop on Harriett and Finesse 1 on Michigan Avenue.





2016 was the year for paint brushes!

- 200 East Cross now has paint colors very appropriate for this Craftsman style house.
- 306 East Cross is freshly painted in a handsome color.
- 309 North Park has a new porch and a new paint job.
- The paint job at 315 High makes this neighborhood more colorful than ever!
- 520 North Hamilton is recently repainted in its lovely color – and notice the gorgeous, original front door.
- 40 East Cross looks great in its new colors.
- 302 North Hamilton's new paint colors highlight its handsome details.
- 116 Maple is beautiful in new colors and detail work.
- The Corner Health Center has been freshly painted.

Thanks and good luck to all the new businesses that have opened this year!

And to everyone who has tucked petunias, marigolds, impatiens, and zinnias into alleys, window boxes, hanging baskets, and wonderful little nooks and crannies all over town, THANK YOU!

Thanks to everyone who works to make Ypsilanti a better place to live: police, fire fighters, city manager, mayor and city council, city departments, city employees, boards and commissions.

And, as always, SPECIAL THANKS to all those folks who quietly and faithfully maintain their properties, who sweep and water, pick up and plant, repair and paint. If we missed mentioning you, know that without your effort Ypsilanti wouldn't be the great place it is!



One of many Ward Swarts houses in the Ypsilanti community.

The annual home tour is the Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation's major fundraiser and this year a portion of the funds raised will support a few projects, the Riverside Arts Center window renovation, Starkweather Chapel renovation and the Towner House as well as contributing to the EMU intern program that acts as support staff to the Ypsilanti Historic District Commission.

*Thank You
for your continued support!*



40th Annual Historic Home Tour Sponsor Opportunities

ADS

<input type="checkbox"/> Full Back Cover - color (4.75 x 7.5).....	\$500
<input type="checkbox"/> Half Page (4.75 x 3.625).....	\$250
<input type="checkbox"/> Quarter Page (2.25 x 3.625).....	\$125
<input type="checkbox"/> Eighth Page (2.25 x 1.75).....	\$75
(please send ads to Pattie Harrington - pkhharrington@gmail.com)	

LISTING in the Ticket Brochure

<input type="checkbox"/> Underwriter	\$100 & higher	3 lines of copy
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$50-\$99	2 lines of copy
<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor	\$25-\$49	1 line of copy

Please check sponsor level & indicate amount enclosed \$ _____

Please indicate how you would like to be listed in the brochure
(approximately 70 characters per line)

Name _____
individual, organization, or business

Address _____

Email _____

Please return this form & payment

Checks payable to: Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation

Mail to: Jan Arps-Prundeanu

7778 Base Lake Road | Dexter, MI 48130

or Email form to: janarps60@gmail.com

with payment via PayPal: Ypsilantiheritage@gmail.com

Heritage NEWS



40th Annual
Historic
HOME TOUR

Sunday, June 25th
noon-5pm.



Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation 40th Annual Historic *Home Tour*

The 40th Annual Historic Home Tour, on June 25th is shaping up to be a memorable event, featuring the designs of prominent local architect Ward Swarts. Four mid-century homes will be open to tour-goers and although the interiors share certain characteristics, structurally they are all very different.

In addition to the Ward Swarts homes 3 downtown businesses, each with its own historic significance will be available to tour-goers, within walking distance of each other. Land-line Creative Labs has emerged from the 1928 Michigan Bell Telephone building and pays homage to its predecessor with a light fixture con-

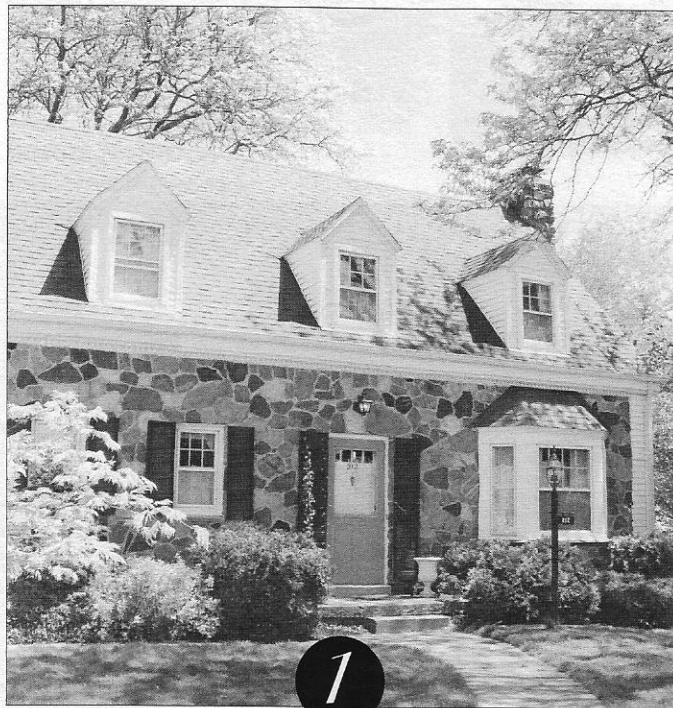
structed from a telephone pole and glass telephone insulators. Go! Ice Cream is a modern day ice cream parlor complete with designer delicacies housed in what was once the People's State Bank which failed during the Great Depression. And finally if you need garden supplies at YpsiPlant or wish to view the site of Growing Hope's year round Farmers' Marketplace in an old warehouse that once housed printing presses for the Huron Press newspaper (long gone), you will see plans in progress including a working kitchen for special events, meeting space and plenty of room for market vendors to sell their wares.

We would like to thank all of

you for your support of the Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation since its inception in 1974. Funds that are raised through our annual home tour this year have been designated to go toward the Towner House rehabilitation.

Ticket vouchers to the tour can be purchased in advance, in Ypsilanti, at Haab's Restaurant, Salt City Antiques, Materials Unlimited, Eyrie, Cultivate Coffee & Tap, Norton-Durant Florist & Gifts, Whittaker Road Aubree's and in Ann Arbor at Downtown Home & Garden. Tickets are \$15.00 and available for purchase on the day of the tour at the Home Tour ticket booth in front of the Towner House, 303 N. Huron as well as pre-sale locations.

2017 HISTORIC HOME TOUR



212 North Mansfield

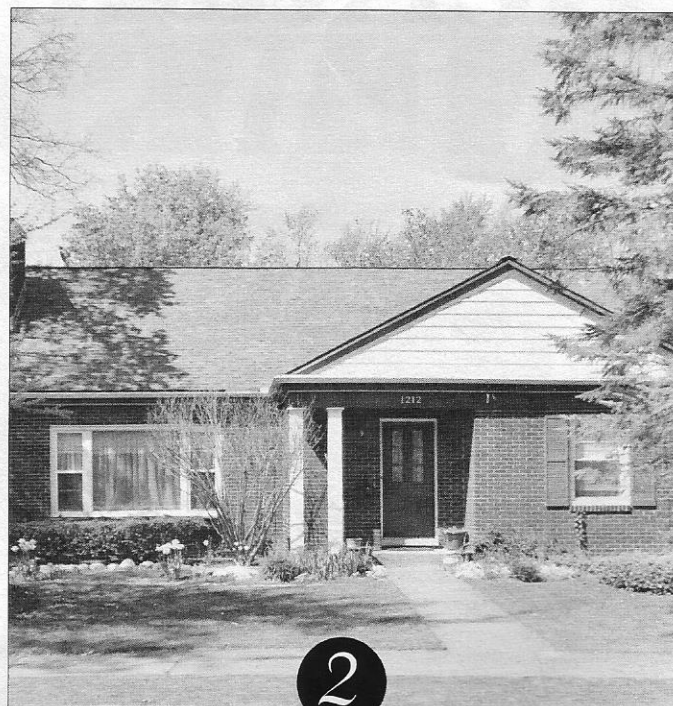
*Carl Schier and
Sylvia Bethea*

212 North Mansfield is the residence of Carl Schier and Sylvia Bethea, who purchased the home in 2005.

When contacted by the Heritage Foundation for this year's Home Tour, they were contemplating a major kitchen renovation and in fact, were missing the floor which had already been removed! Working with local designer Kathy Bodary, and Abel Thomason of Thomason Brothers Carpentry, they bravely committed to having the work done in time to open the doors of their lovely home on June 25th.

This house retains many original features which are commonly seen in homes designed by Ward Swarts, including colorful vintage tiled bathrooms, built-in bookcases and corner cupboards, and generous storage closets. The beautiful cut stone façade and chimney add a rustic elegance to this classic colonial design.

Built in 1940, this house was commissioned by Dr. Ronald Martin. Records at that time show the address as 402 Mansfield. At some point, the house numbers on Mansfield were changed and it became 212 North Mansfield, it's current address.



1212 Westmoorland

Joyce Fraker

This Ward Swarts home built in 1951 is a combination of simple elegance and livability. The house has had only 3 owners. Being on a boulevard, all brick, with multiple street faces is part of its elegance, as well as having a front entry vestibule and wide halls. Despite a seemingly modest appearance from the street, this house is nearly 2200 square feet and originally included five bedrooms and one and a half baths.

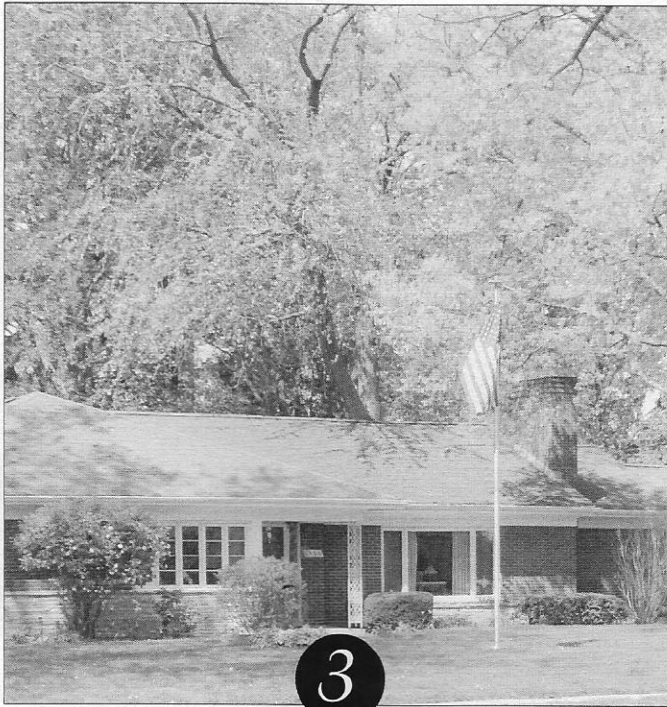
Currently, the main floor has three bedrooms with generous closets and hardwood floors. Mr. Swarts designed the house so that various spaces can be closed off or opened, to add to its versatility. The doors to the bedroom side can be closed off from the shared living space; additionally, the kitchen and dining space can be closed, and the large living room can be closed. The living room boasts a fireplace with an elegant mantel; the bathroom boasts original tile and fixtures with a touch of art deco. The marble threshold into the bathroom and the marble window ledge over the kitchen sink were Mr. Swarts' nod to water damage prevention. There is a front vestibule with a large coat closet; two large hall closets and a bathroom closet were also unusual features in a home built during that time.

The second floor was partially finished when the current owner moved in almost thirty years ago. Putting in a roof window added much needed light, as did removing the two walls that had separated the space into two bedrooms, one with a half bath. The space is now designed as a master suite or efficiency apartment, with a full shower/bath, a kitchenette, and a closet.

The owner is a collector of vintage linens and has used them to decorate throughout the house. She also has an extensive embroidery collection made by her sister. Outside, she has been reducing the lawn and has at least eight different types of ground cover in the yard. With many flowering trees, bushes, and perennials, the yard is very attractive to bees, hummingbirds, and butterflies.

With its low maintenance brick exterior, easy-to-clean hardwood floors, and flexible living spaces, this home has long been a source of enjoyment to its owner.

2017 HISTORIC HOME TOUR



1306 West Cross

Charles and Ann Cleary Kettles

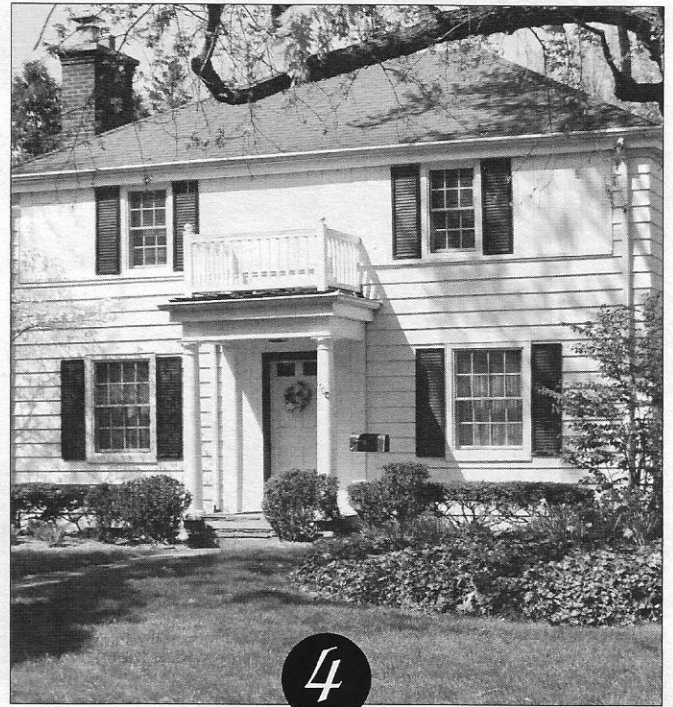
The home of Charles and Ann Cleary Kettles, at 1306 W. Cross, was built in 1952. The Kettleses moved into 1306 from next door, 1310, in 2007. Both homes were designed by Ward Swarts and built by the same person.

1306 W. Cross, a spacious, four-bedroom brick ranch, was first built for Hollet Allison, who owned a clothing store on Michigan Avenue. Allison passed away in the late 1970s, and his wife, Gladys, lived there for many years after his death. Dave Hortin, an attorney and EMU professor, bought the home in the late 1980s. A bachelor with no relatives, Hortin died in 2004, and the Kettles bought the home a couple of years later. Hortin had made many improvements and upgrades, including replacing all the doors and windows and redoing the bath and kitchen, where he removed the original 1950s metal cabinets.

The home allows plenty of room for gracious living and reflects the Kettleses' varied interests and experiences. Charles Kettles has had a long and impressive military history, and several areas of their home contain numerous artifacts reflecting his career. Tour-goers will be able to examine displays of Mr. Kettles' many medals, documents, and photographs. Of special interest is the Medal of Honor he was awarded by President Obama in 2016, nearly 50 years after his actions while serving as a flight commander during the Vietnam War, when he saved the lives of 44 soldiers. His family's involvement in the field of aviation is also well documented.

Ann Kettles has been a prominent citizen of Ypsilanti all of her life. She is the granddaughter of P. R. Cleary, founder of Cleary College, and daughter of Owen J. Cleary, who served as president of Cleary College and as Michigan Secretary of State from 1953-54. Mrs. Kettles served as the head of Records and Registration/ Academic Advising at Eastern Michigan University for many years, and her home reflects these aspects of her life. Many family portraits of both Cleary and Kettles family members adorn the walls.

Tour-goers are sure to enjoy this tasteful and interesting home.



1300 Roosevelt

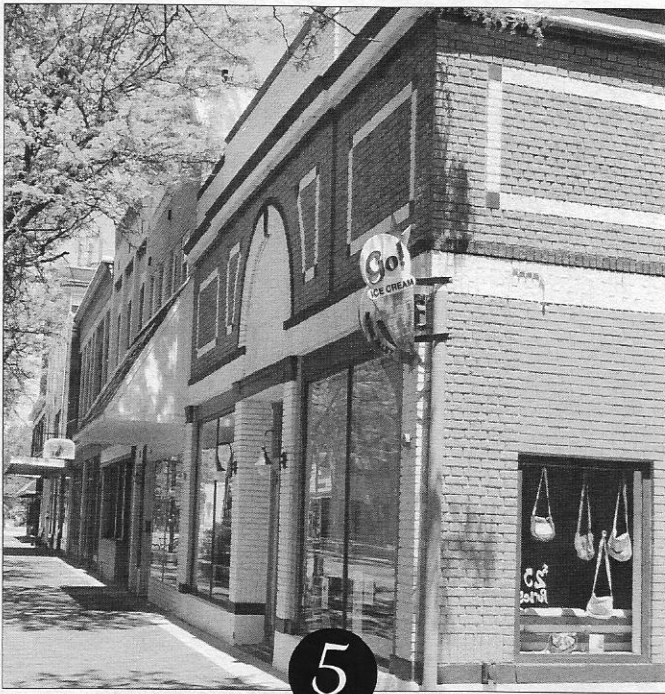
Judy Williston and Elaine Found

Ward Swarts designed this gracious yet compact colonial revival home for Hugh Adams in 1942. It then consisted of only the rectangle that is now the front portion of the house. The facade offers a central door with balanced windows on either side, typical of the style, and has always been painted white, in keeping with the colonial revival aesthetic. Inside is a traditional floor plan with revival fireplace, a berry box compartment in the basement and, typical of a Swarts design, a hidden jewelry compartment.

Sadly, Hugh Adams had to sell the house soon after, when he left to join the Navy during World War II. It was then purchased by Ypsilanti Savings Bank vice-president Glen Grosbeck and his wife, Irene, who lived in the house until 1978. Since then the owners have been Judy Williston and Elaine Found, both teachers at Eastern Michigan University. They soon saw that they needed a much bigger dining room for entertaining their many friends and students and so built the first addition in 1981. Dick Reinhart provided a very compatible design to include not only the new dining room but also a family room and a fourth bedroom above. The dining room showcases a few of the Found family's Korean articles, collected by Elaine's parents during their fourteen years in that country.

The kitchen was redone in 1987, and in 2002 a studio addition, designed by Ypsilanti architect Denis Schmiedeke, was added to cover a backyard terrace. This addition has proved to be a great space for spending retirement hours for two longtime working women as it overlooks their backyard designed as an English garden with favorite chimney pots, a stoddle, and an armillary sphere brought back from England. The home, displaying Ms. Found's art works and the collected memorabilia of their many travels, is a delightful reflection of two lifetimes.

2017 HISTORIC HOME TOUR



5

10 North Washington Street

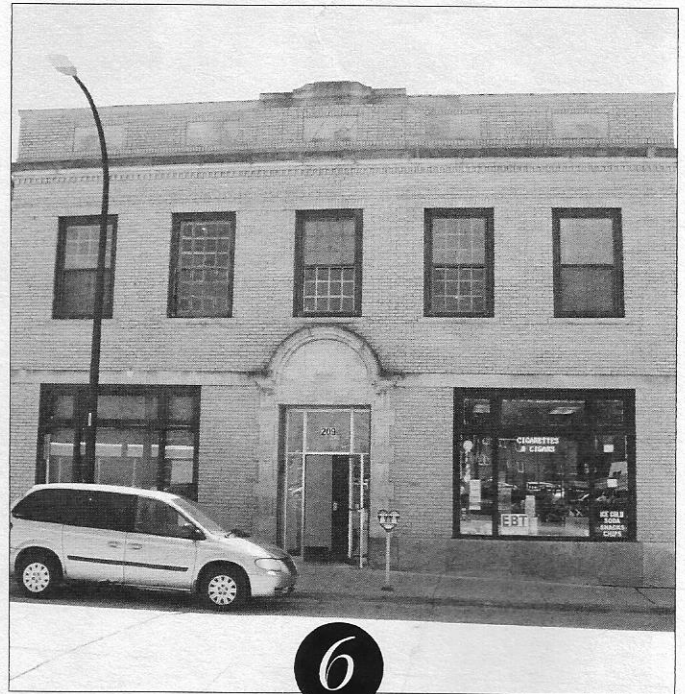
Go! Ice Cream

Rob Hess

Go! Ice Cream started renovations to its alley store in January 2016, pulling out cheap carpet and drywall from what looked like a typical office space. But underneath, it was anything but! Rob did his best to salvage the original tile floors that he discovered, and he lifted out the drop ceiling to give the space back its original high ceiling. He even covered it with wallpaper to mimic a tin ceiling.

An old insurance map from the early 1900s revealed that the space was once called the "Wine Room," and the giant vault in the building's basement affirms vestiges of its former life as the People's State Bank, which failed during the Great Depression. The Clarke Shoppe, a women's clothing store, also occupied the space for years.

Two old doors that Rob found in the basement provide the foundation for the Go! Ice Cream counter, which Rob built by hand. He found his soda fountain on Craigslist and hauled it to Chicago for repairs so he could serve floats and sodas to customers, along with delicious sundaes and cones. Today, Go! Ice Cream has a retro feel, but everything is as up-to-date as possible, including Rob's innovative new flavors like Sweet Browned Butter and his dairy-free Chocolate Sorbet.



6

209 Pearl Street

Landline Creative Labs

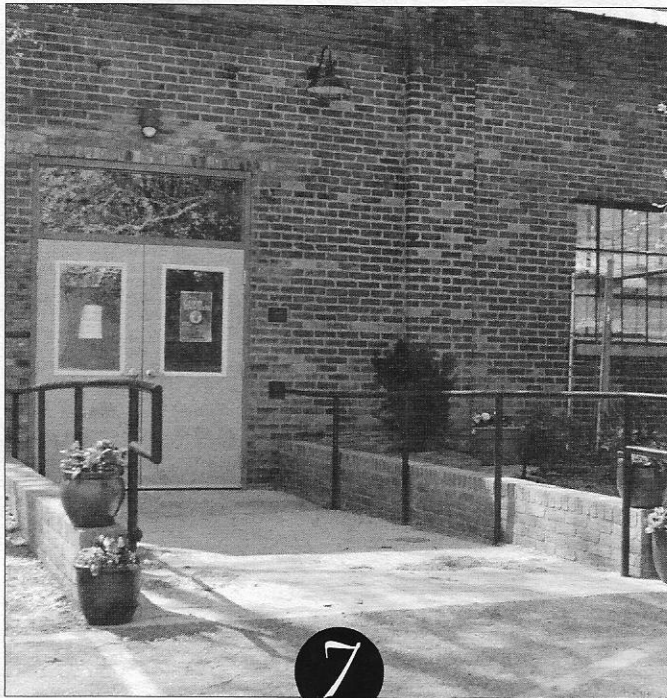
*Mark Maynard
and Jesse Kranyak*

The days are long gone when a cornerstone on 209 Pearl Street read "Michigan Bell Telephone 1928," or, for that matter, when the gentleman's club Deja Vu down the street was the Martha Washington Movie Theater. However, the name Landline and a unique light fixture constructed from a telephone pole and glass telephone insulators pays homage to the building's roots. Landline Creative Labs has emerged after many hours of hard labor from partners Mark Maynard and Jesse Kranyak. The historic building, which housed switching gear and telephone switchboards until at least 1956, when Ypsilanti went with rotary dial phones, is adding new businesses as well as retaining established pillars of the community such as Frank D's Barbershop.

It served as a boarding house until a fire in September of 2014 left the second story uninhabitable. The two owners spent more than 10 months converting the space into affordable office units for locals working in film, photography, design, illustration, and communications. The owners would like to see a large undeveloped space on the first floor house a restaurant, bar, or combination thereof.

Obtaining tenants for their newly created space has not been a problem. Finding just the right sofa for the lobby after all the construction was complete proved to be another story. After searching numerous ads on Craigslist to no avail, they found the perfect 60s piece from Denmark right around the corner at Salt City Antiques. How's that for staying local? YHF salutes the entrepreneurial spirit of Ypsilanti and the developers who are making it happen.

2017 HISTORIC HOME TOUR



16 South Washington Street

Growing Hope Ypsilanti Farmers' Market Place

Growing Hope's Ypsilanti Farmers Market Place is a melding of a former drive-through bank (now the YpsiPlant garden store) and an old warehouse whose former occupants ranged from a used tire facility, to housing printing presses for the Huron Press newspaper (long gone), Friends in Deed furniture warehouse and Hope Dental Clinic. It is the future home of a year-round marketplace and is shaping up to be an impressive addition to Ypsilanti's downtown resurgence. Plans include retail, education and event space as well as a licensed kitchen for catering and demonstrations.

The 1930's era barrel-vaulted ceiling warehouse had no entrance from Washington Street since it's address was on the other side of the block. But with the aid of clever, innovative contractors, entrances to the outdoor marketplace were created and with a nod to historic preservation an old rather distressed garage door with a "people" entrance in the center was saved.

Tour-goers will find the Growing Hope staff extremely warm and welcoming so don't be shy about asking questions. You may just be enticed to revisit on market days and pick-up a frequent shopper card at this downtown hub of activity! Wood floors, the original doors and hardware, door and window trim moldings, and some light fixtures. He has also refurbished two of the three apartments to be used as rental units.

Join YHF Today!

Membership Categories

Students & Seniors	\$10
Individual	\$15
Family (2 or more same address)	\$25
Contributing	\$50
Sustaining	\$100
Lifetime	\$1,000

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

The Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation is recognized as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization by the US Federal Government.

Make Check Payable to:

**Ypsilanti Heritage
Foundation**

Send Payment to:

Claudia Pettit

945 Sheridan

Ypsilanti, MI 48197



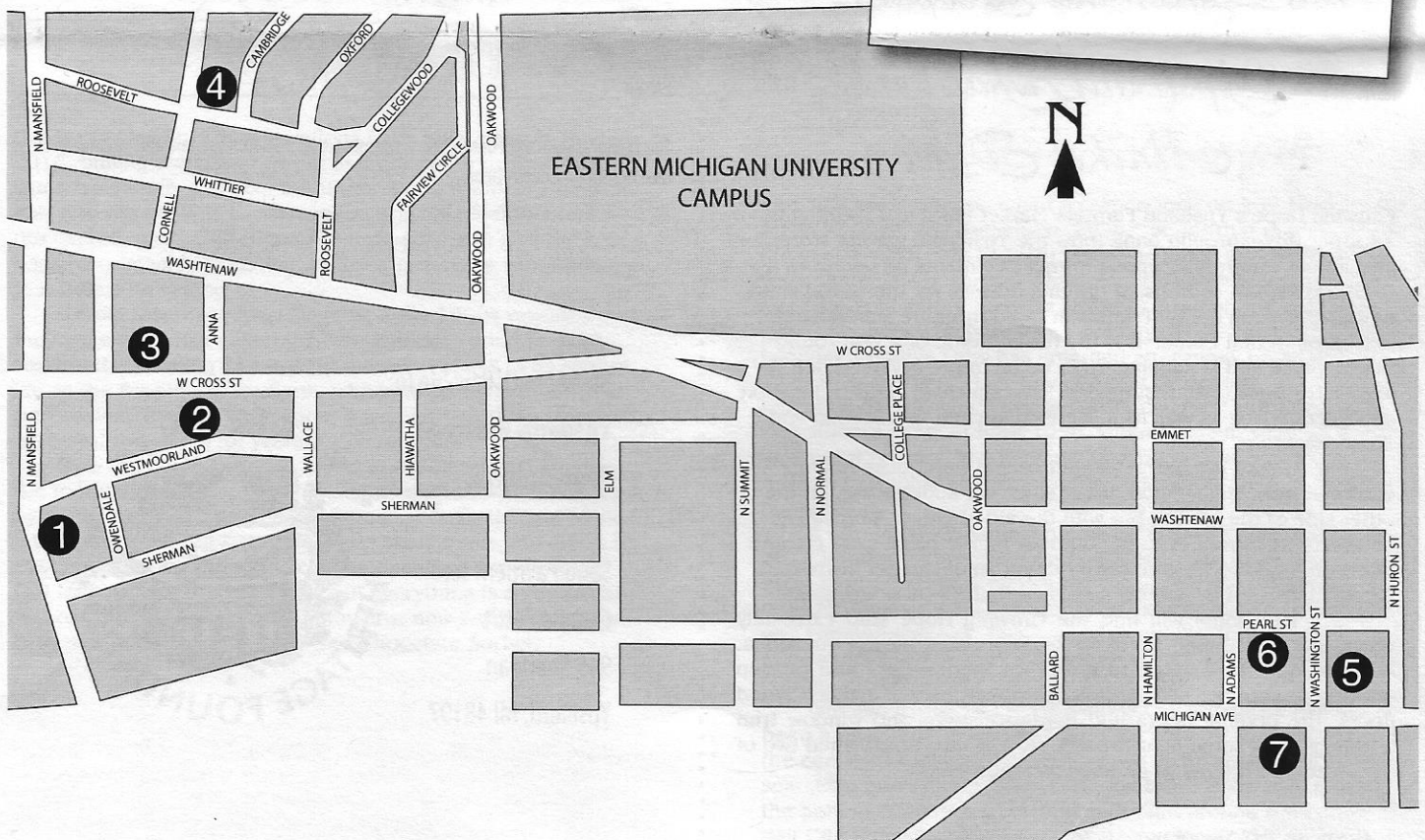
Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation

40th Annual Historic ARCHITECTURAL HOME TOUR

Advance tickets are on sale in Ypsilanti at Haab's Restaurant, Norton-Durant Florist & Gifts, Salt City Antiques, Eyrie, Cultivate, Whittaker Road Aubree's & Materials Unlimited, in Ann Arbor at Downtown Home & Garden. On the day of the tour, tickets are available at the Home Tour ticket booth in front of the Towner House at 303 North Huron Street, and at all of the pre-sales locations except for Norton-Durant Florist & Gifts.

Key to the Tour

- ❑ 1. 212 N. Mansfield
- ❑ 2. 1212 Westmoorland
- ❑ 3. 1306 W. Cross
- ❑ 4. 1300 Roosevelt
- ❑ 5. Go! Ice Cream
10 N. Washington
- ❑ 6. Landline Creative Labs
209 Pearl
- ❑ 7. Growing Hope's Ypsilanti
Farmers Market Place
16 S. Washington



Sunday, June 25th from noon-5pm - Tickets are \$15



Towner House

This year's recipient of Home Tour proceeds

The Towner House was built by Marcus Lane in 1837 in a vernacular Greek Revival style. It is a post-and-beam construction with most of the original beams still intact, and it stands on its original stone foundation.

Lane died in 1840, and in 1842 the house was sold to his brother, Charles. It then had several more owners until it was sold to Nancy Spencer Towner, widow of Ephraim Towner. Both Nancy and Ephraim had several children from previous marriages. Ephraim's youngest son, Norman Towner, married Jennette Spencer, daughter of Nancy, in May of 1854, and they moved into the home in 1858, after Nancy's death. Norman Towner became the City Clerk in 1870 and later worked as a bookkeeper. Norman and Jennette lived in the home with daughters Anna and Caroline and son Tracy. After more than 100 years of occupancy by the family, the house became known as "The Towner House." During the Towner family's residency, the house was more than doubled in size and a garage was built.

Tracy Towner was appointed to the Circuit Court as a commissioner, the youngest person to hold that position at the time. Later he became Ypsilanti's city attorney and was elected mayor in 1912. Tracy died in 1943. Neither he nor either of his sisters ever married, and the house was left to St. Luke's Episcopal Church. In 1952 the house was purchased by G. L. Stewart; he and his family lived there until 1968. It served as a rental property for four years and then was purchased by the First Presbyterian Church, which planned to raze it.

The Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation was formed to save the Towner House from demolition. A lease agreement was created in 1975 between the church and the foundation. After continuing to be a private residence, it became a Children's Museum in 1982. The museum ceased to exist in 1990, and the house fell into disrepair. By 1999, a consent agreement was reached between the City and the Church, calling for removal of all the additions in the back to the original structure and installation of a new roof. The Towner House LLC was formed as a nonprofit entity to maintain and repair the building. In 2014 the Towner House Foundation purchased the house from the church allowing for interior restoration to take place.

The house's exterior is mostly restored, the interior is a shell, and in need of restoration. Continuing with Phase I of the restoration, recommended by the EMU Preservation students and the structural engineer, the house needs to be stabilized. This summer the current floor in the basement will be removed and the earthen floor leveled. A new basement floor will be poured with reinforced pads to handle support pillars for the sagging main beams. Once the beams are stabilized then we can proceed with the next phases of the restoration. We are also replacing many of the floor trusses between the first and second floors that have been compromised or rotted over the years.

Funding for the Towner House is solely by donations and various fund raising activities.



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945 Sheridan | Ypsilanti, MI 48197

PORTLAND OR 970

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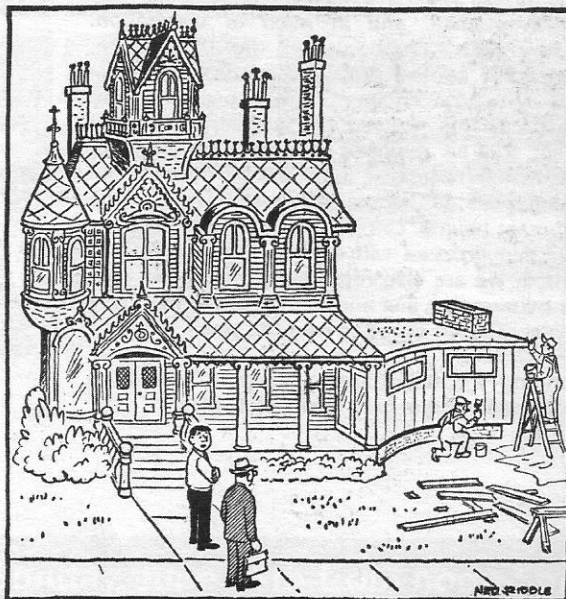
Jane Schmiedeke
313 High St.
Ypsilanti, MI 48198-2912

See you at the Home Tour - Sunday, June 25, 2017 - noon-5pm.

Heritage News is the newsletter of the Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation. It is published and distributed, free of charge, to the membership by mail.

48198-2912 like us on facebook

2017 Historic Markers IN YPSILANTI



Does it look too tacked on?

The 43rd annual Heritage Foundation's Marker Award Banquet is set for 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, September 20 at the Ladies' Literary Club. Be sure to save the date and help us celebrate this years' nominees.

Homes or buildings are nominated for this special award by the following criteria:

- The property is within the boundaries of the City of Ypsilanti
- The property predates 1950 and has an identifiable architectural style
- The property is well and appropriately maintained
- The grounds are maintained
- If it is a rental property, the property has had appropriate maintenance for at least two years
- The property has been developed sensitively
- The siding on the property is what was originally intended or could have been used originally. (Vinyl siding on a 19th century building is never appropriate)
- The windows are original or identical to the original in size and configuration
- Porches, railings and steps are appropriate to the period and style of the building
- Any additions are compatible