

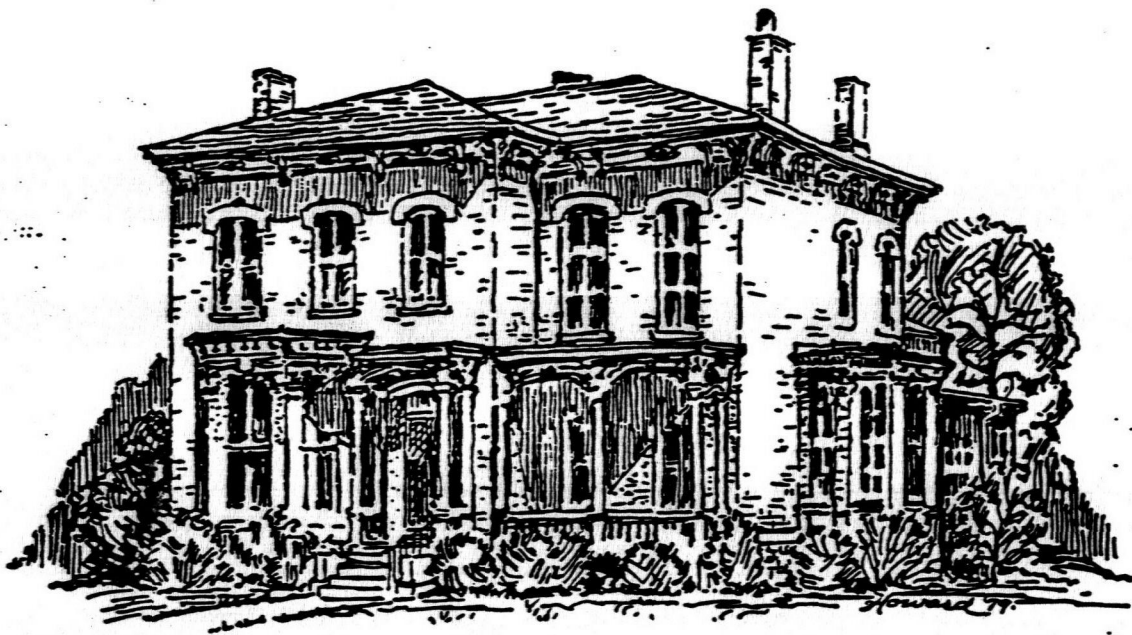
# YPSILANTI GLEANINGS

## PAST SCENES and OLD TIMES

YPSILANTI HISTORICAL SOCIETY PUBLICATION

March

1996



Ypsilanti Historical Museum  
~ 220 N-Huron Street ~

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THE MUSEUM AT 220 NORTH HURON STREET IS OWNED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI, MICHIGAN AND OPERATED IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST OF THE YPSILANTI HISTORICAL SOCIETY. A NON-PROFIT GROUP OF PUBLIC SPIRITED CITIZENS. MUSEUM IS OPEN THURSDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY FROM 2:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.. ARCHIVES IS OPEN MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY FROM 9:00 A.M. UNTIL 12:00 NOON- TELEPHONE 482-4990

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Checks payable to Ypsilanti Historical Society  
220 North Huron Street  
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Would you enjoy working at the Museum?  Yes  
Society is a non-profit organization.

DUES ARE DUE AT THIS TIME. PLEASE HELP BY SENDING YOURS IN NC

THANK YOU

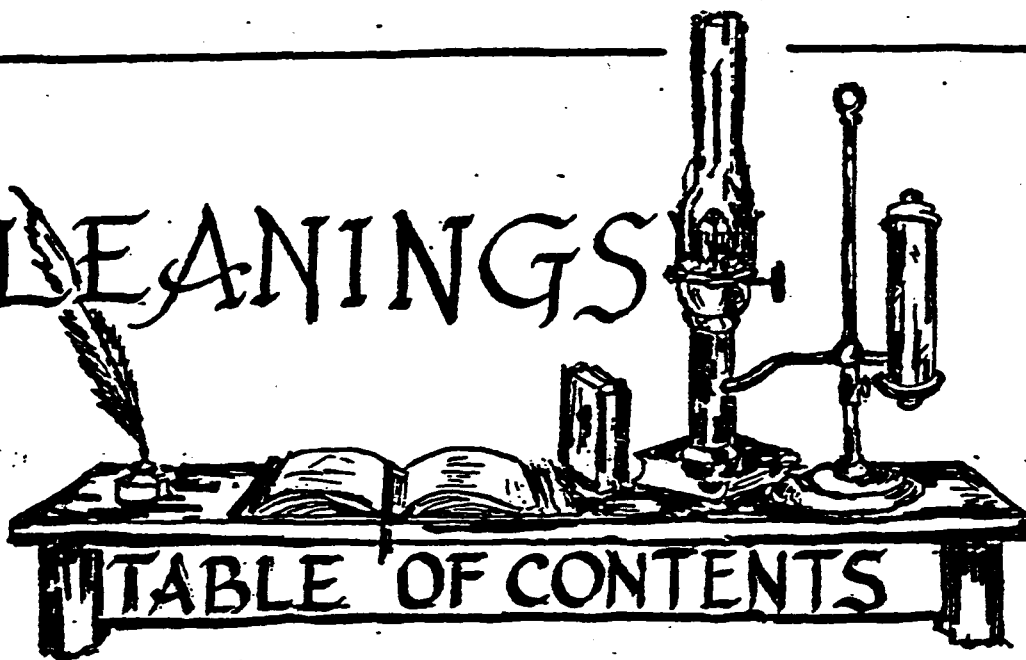
REMEMBER SEND THEM TO:

YPSILANTI HISTORICAL SOCIETY

220 NORTH HURON STREET

YPSILANTI, MICHIGAN 48197

# GLEANINGS



MARCH 1996

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COVER DESIGN AND TABLE OF CONTENTS BY ARTHUR J. HOWARD

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MADE AND CONSENT GIVEN

OFFICE OF THE YPSILANTI HISTORICAL SOCIETY IS AT  
220 N. HURON STREET, YPSILANTI, MICHIGAN 48197

THE MUSEUM AT 220 N. HURON STREET YPSILANTI IS OWNED BY THE PEOPLE  
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YPSILANTI HISTORICAL SOCIETY, A NON-PROFIT GROUP OF PUBLIC SPIRITED  
VOLUNTEERS.

**QUARTERLY MEETING**

**APRIL 22, 1996**

**2:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.**

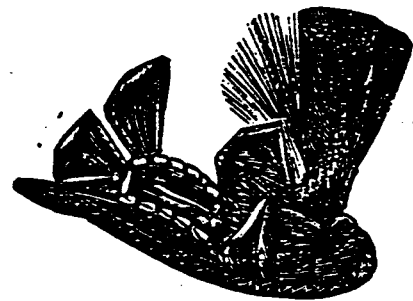
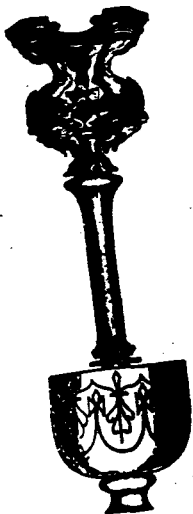
**BRING YOUR ARTICLES TO BE  
APPRAISED BY STEVE GROSS OF  
DEPOT TOWN**

**NO CHARGE BUT A DONATION  
TO THE YPSILANTI HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY WOULD BE APPRECIATED.**

**REFRESHMENTS**

**DO COME AND ENJOY A VISIT TO THE  
MUSEUM  
EVERYONE IS WELCOME**

**220 N. HURON**



DEAR FRIENDS AND FANS OF YPSILANTI HERITAGE AND HISTORY:

GOOD THINGS CONTINUE TO HAPPEN FOR YOUR SOCIETY AND MUSEUM WHICH WILL BECOME EVEN MORE APPARENT WITH THE ADVENT OF SPRING.

THEY INCLUDE:

- \* NEW MERCHANDISE AND MARKETING FOR OUR FINE GIFT SHOP.
- \* FURTHER INTERIOR REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS WHILE EXTERIOR ONES WILL BEGIN WHEN WEATHER PERMITS.
- \* HELP FROM THE CBC TO PROMOTE THE MUSEUM.
- \* UPDATING OUR FINANCIAL RECORDS.
- \* POPULAR EVENTS INCLUDING THE JANUARY MEETING AND VALENTINE'S PARTY.

HOW ARE YOU DOING AT RECRUITING NEW MEMBERS FOR US? ASK EVERYONE YOU ENCOUNTER AND WE SHALL SOON HAVE A RECORD NUMBER OF PEOPLE PRESERVING AND PROTECTING OUR PAST TO CONVEY TO THE FUTURE WHILE WE ENJOY IT AT PRESENT.

OTHER THINGS YOU CAN DO:

- \* HELP WITH THE SPRING CLEANUP.
- \* COLLECT THINGS FOR THE BIG YARD SALE IN JUNE.
- \* ENCOURAGE VISITORS ESPECIALLY GROUPS FROM CLUBS, SCHOOLS AND THE LIKE.

ALL OF US WILL BE INVOLVED AS YPSILANTI IS PART OF THE STATE AND NATIONAL CELEBRATION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN AUTOMOBILE. WE EXPECT TO LINK A NUMBER OF THINGS TO THE SOCIETY AND MUSEUM SUCH AS THE CAR IN THE PARK DURING THE FIRST WEEK END IN MAY.

WE ALSO WISH TO EXTEND A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE FAMILY OF THE LATE MAXE A. OBERMEYER SR. AS THEY DESIGNATED OUR AUTOMOTIVE HERITAGE MUSEUM TO RECEIVE MEMORIAL GIFTS FROM HIS FAMILY AND FRIENDS. GIFTS TO THIS MEMORIAL ARE STILL BEING ACCEPTED.

BEQUESTS AND MEMORIALS ARE A VERY FITTING MANNER IN WHICH TO HONOR LOVED ONES WHILE CARRYING ON THE FINE WORK OF OUR SOCIETY.

AS ALWAYS, WE WELCOME YOU TO VOLUNTEER YOUR EFFORTS ON ANY OF THE MANY PROJECTS UNDER WAY AND GIVE US YOUR IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS.

THANK YOU

PETER B. FLETCHER

WILLIAM F. EALY  
1911 1995

William F. Ealy was born August 17, 1911 on a large dairy farm outside Whittaker, Michigan, a small village in the south east side of Augusta Township.

They moved to Ypsilanti in 1915 when Bill was five. He had four sisters and one brother, his brother passed away before they moved. His family purchased a home at 517 Ellis Street which is now Washtenaw Avenue. Starting first grade at the Central grade school September 1916 and he finished high school in 1926. At that time they lived at 102 Wallace Blvd.

As we all know the years after 26 & 27 was the start of the depression. Bill found a job as an apprentice tool maker at the Ideal Furnace Factory in Milan, Michigan. He lived with one of his older sisters for several years. While living there he met his wife Eileen Bridges who lived in Ypsilanti and resided there all her younger years and attended Ypsilanti Central High School. He was married in 1933 and lived in Milan for twelve years. They moved to Ann Arbor where he had obtained a job at King Seeley. He worked there several years during the second World War. The plant was purchased by Chrysler Corporation where he retired from after working thirty-three years.

One daughter was born to this union. She married and had two children David and Sarah Frye. Bill lived at Greenbrier Apartments on South Congress for several years and was the maintenance man. He retired again in 1988.

They moved to Cornell Apartments and he looked forward to taking it easy. He became the Treasurer for the Ypsilanti Historical Society about 1985. He also added many other chores, along with accepting the responsibility of the Museum.

Bill worked at the Ypsilanti Historical Museum for about 11 years, helping in any way he could. About 1988 he was given the task of taking care of the house(Museum) fixing leaks, changing light bulbs and all the good things that I would ask him to do, charge of the Yard, and was the Chairman of our Yard Sale at the Museum. He was always ready to assist in any way he could. He is missed so very much not only by the folks at the Museum but by me. He was ready to help and will be a hard person to replace. He was my right hand person.

Bill and Eileen celebrated their 62nd Anniversary in September of 1995.

He will help Foster Fletcher with the Museum (I'm sure they have one up in the beyond) and they will both watch us as we continue to grow and prosper.

Just a remembrance to two of my favorite friends.

Billie Zolkosky

Byron M. Cutcheon, an early Ypsilanti resident and his part in the Battle at Horseshoebend, Kentucky is being recorded in a book that is being written by Mr. Ed. Cahill of Russell Springs, Kentucky.

#### YPSILANTI MAN FAMOUS IN KENTUCKY

Major Byron M. Cutcheon of Ypsilanti won the Congressional Medal of Honor for his role in leading the 20TH Michigan volunteer Infantry Regiment in the "Battle of Horseshoebend, Kentucky during the Civil War. This battle occurred May 10, 1863. Created in 1863, the Congressional Medal of Honor is awarded for "Acts of Bravery, at the risk of Life, beyond and above the call of duty in action with an enemy". Major Cutcheon was awarded the Medal for "Distinguished Gallantry in leading his regiment in a charge of a house occupied by the Enemy.

Colonel Richard T. Jacob, Commander of the Ninth Kentucky Cavalry said in praise of Major Cutcheon "He led the 20th Michigan Infantry in the Charge, and behaved with great gallantry".

Byron M. Cutcheon was born May 11, 1836 at Pembroke, New Hampshire and came to Michigan with his brother and two sisters in the 1850's. His father was a Baptist Minister who instilled in his children "the finest qualities of the old New England Character". At fifteen years of age, Byron taught school and with the money he earned, he attended the Pembroke Academy, where, along with his scholarly accomplishments, he received a degree in Military training.

After coming to Ypsilanti, Byron attended and graduated from the Union Seminary,, and in 1861 he graduated from the University of Michigan. He then taught at the seminary, his subjects being ancient languages, mathematics, mental and moral philosophy.

In 1862 Byron began a Military career which was characterized by faithful service and brilliant deeds. Because of his physical and intellectual strength, he was a natural leader and led the 20th Michigan Infantry Regiment through many battles in the war, including the above mentioned Battle of Horsehoebend.

After the war, Byron Cutcheon returned to Ypsilanti to study Law with his brother, Sullivan. This led him to attend and graduate from the Law School at the University of Michigan and to practice Law in Ionia and Manistee, Michigan. He served for eight years as a Regent for the University and was a four term member of the United States House of Representatives where he was said to have been a forcible speaker. Some of his speeches on the Tariff in 1884 and one on the Presidents veto of Private pension bills became famous.

Mr. Cutcheon returned to private life in Grand Rapids where he practiced Law for a while, but then decided to quit that and devote his time to writing. He contributed articles to several magazines



Henry Utley, he wrote a four volume work on "Michigan as a Province Territory and State".

The final years of Byron Cutcheons' life were spent with his sister in Ypsilanti where he died in 1908 and is buried in Highland Cemetery.



ARCHIVES MUSINGS:            MARCH 1996

Friends:

As I look outside and see the SNOW I think it has been a long rime since it has been warm, I mean really warm. Oh Hurry Spring!!! My tulips are up at home and I pray they will not freeze. O Well onward and upward.

We had a fine showing of visitors on New Years Eve at the Museum, many had never visited the Museum before-Can you imagine that!!! We are open Thursday, Saturday and Sunday afternoons from 2-4 P.M. Surely you can visit sometime one of those days. The Archives are always open Monday through Friday from 9-12 Noon. Don't you have some information you just can't continue your daily routine without knowing about? Need a calendar? or just to say Hello. We are never too busy to chat for a few minutes(It gets lonely here and is nice to see someone once in a while)

Doris has been doing a lot of research for out of towners, so this makes for a lot of looking and digging for her and she usually find what she is looking for. A very determined lady.

We have a new Treasurer, many of you probably know her, Suzanne LaRue Wood. So be sure to get your dues in so she will be real busy.

Last but very important REMEMBER THE YARD SALE, JUNE 8TH, We HAVE ROOM TO STORE YOUR VALUABLES SO WE WILL MAKE SOME MONEY by selling, selling and selling. If you need to have the articles picked up, Call the office and we will be glad to make arrangements to pick them up. 482-4990.

Well, I guess that is all for this time.  
Have a nice warm Spring.

Billie

Professor Cerise Margaronis recently visited the City Archives to research the Ypsilanti Family. Her story is interesting.

#### A Visitor from Greece comes to Ypsilanti, Michigan

After a 30 year absence, Professor Cerise Margaronis, comes back to Michigan and to her Alma Mater, the University of Michigan. She is a graduate of its School of Public Health(MPH), her second master degree(MSW) from the University of Denver, Colorado. She was Professor of Social Work in Greece and Visiting Lecturer in the faculty of Social Science at the Queens's University of Belfast, Northern Ireland and spoke at King's College in Aberdeen, Scotland. while here, she is doing personal research on the Columbus who lived in Chios, Greece under Genovese occupation of that North Aegean Island. She will be here a month, and came to see Ypsilanti this time as it is a special, historic town founded two years after the Greek Revolution for Independence in 1821, throwing off and out the Ottoman Empire's enslavement for 4 centuries! The Ypsilanti family was active in this, they operated with others in the 'Fileki Etaeria' - a friend's (for freedom) Society outside Greece (Romania, Russia) and gave courage to those brave souls fighting within. Also important to Ypsilanti is a fact of research that Christopher Columbus' real name was Nicholas Ypsilanti. He was a Greek Nobleman, schooled at the Holy Mountain Monastery in Coloros and was given the name 'Christophors' and the Monastery's which in speech became 'Colombos.

In a town in Chios (island) called Pyrgi (fortress), 50% of the residents have the name Columbus and believe to be heirs of Columbus. Let us join Ypsilanti to Pyrgi, this summer, two "Greek" towns and share each's rich culture. Ypsilanti may have more to celebrate this October 12th, Columbus Day!

Professor Margaronis gave us a few DELICIOUS Greek Recipes.

#### APPLE STRUDEL

3 apples (medium size) peel, and slice thin, or grate, 1/2 c sugar 1/4 c chopped nuts, 1/4 c raisins, optional, pinch of cinnamon, grated rind of one lemon.\*

\*Using Strudel Dough (purchased ready made) Roll filling in dough and bake in buttered baking pan about 325° until brown.

#### CHERRY STRUDEL

1 heaping cup pitted cherries (fresh or canned) 1/2 c. sugar, 1/2 c dry bread crumbs, 3 tbsp melted butter, 1/4 c nuts. Follow directions for Apple Strudel.\*

Chios  
Chios, a grand island of Greece

Chios is the largest island in a group which constitutes Chios Prefecture and also includes the smaller island's of Lmoussis, home to the rich shipowners whose offices are in London, New York and Piraesis, Greece, and Psara, a very small island that provided a naval fleet to fight the Oltomane (Turks) who slaughtered whole villages and mountain town's on the main island Chios at Anavatos, still a 'ghost' town. A Greek-American wrote a novel "Island of the Winds" about the period of history at the time your town was founded. Athena Dallas-Domis is author.

Professor Cerise Margaronis, an American of Greek heritage, re-visiting Michigan after 30 years absence, opened privately and with her own funds, The Columus Center at Lmoussis, Chios. she lives in a Manor House, built by philanthropist and shipowner, the late John D. Pateras, now in a foundation operated by the last Pateras(6) Brothers, Nicholas D. Patera wealthy shipowner, she donates much to education, Greek School in London, the naval lyceum, high and elementary schools in Oinoussis. A scholarship fund for children going into higher education in Europe, America-children of Chios Prefecture.

Chios has a history rich in events and periods of high culture and intellectual development. In the period of Ionian settlement Chios reached heights in commerce and the arts. Its "Golden Century" is the 6th century B.C., Commerce, navigation and the arts flourished and great wealth flowed into the island.

From the 7th century A.D. onwards, Chios suffered many Arabian invasions: only in the 11th century A.D. the island's defenses were organized and peace ruled.

After a period of tyrannical Genoese rule(1346-1566) the Island finally came under the Turks in 1566. Pyrgi, home to Columbus, like other villages(Mesta, Olympoi, Kalamoti) retains the characteristics of a fortified Medieval settlement.

## ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

It is hard to believe that January has already gone by. I hope the New Year has been good to you in spite of the cold weather.

The Museum was closed the month of January so that some extra cleaning could be done. There are always cases to be cleaned, and changed, silver to be polished, and all the regular things that need to be spruced up for the coming season.

We now have new gift shop buyers, Cathy Kemling and Diane Schick. If you have not been in the gift shop lately you need to drop in to see the great new things the ladies have gotten.

We are sorry some of you missed the Valentine Tea. It was very nice and there were about 40 people who went thru and seemed to enjoy the old valentines, they will be up for a while yet so you still have time to get in to see them.

Joan Carpenter has made two great displays. One about Black History Month. We have some very prominent African Americans who have made a great impact on the Ypsilanti community. Another one is on the progress of lighting. Do you remember the Betty Lamp, Candles, Edison Bulbs? If you don't, come in and see how far lighting has come thru the years.

The tool room is now complete. It took some time to get it done but it was worth while.

When you start your spring cleaning remember our YARD SALE. We have storage so if you want to bring your articles in we can get it out of your way.

If you have an idea for displays that might be interesting please let us know.

Hope to see you at the Museum soon.

Virginia Davis and Committee.

## NEW BOOKS IN THE ARCHIVES

The Second volume of Michigan Women: Firsts and Founders by Rachel Brett Harley and Betty MacDonell was written in celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution which gave women the right to vote. Several Ypsilanti people are mentioned who were active in the long struggle for the Amendment.

Scio Village, Ghost town with a Past by Nicholas A Marsh is the story of a typical village in early Michigan that was founded by families who came from the Eastern States. The village was located Northwest of Ann Arbor at the Intersection of Huron River Drive and Zeeb Road. Included in the book are chapters about the Milling Industry, the Village Post Office, the One Room School, the Railroad, the Village founders and finally, the decline and death of the Village.

Mr. Marsh is the author of the Historical account of the neighboring Village of Delhi in Remembering Delhi Mills, this book is also available in the Archives.

A book by A.P. Marshall is the Legendary Four Horsemen of the African Methodist Episcopal Church : by Richard Allen, William Quinn, Daniel Payne, Henry Turner. This book was written in Commemoration of the Two Hundredth Anniversary of the Church in America.

Willow Run, Colossus of American Industry: Home of Henry Ford's B-24 "Liberator" Bomber, by Warren Benjamin Kidder. This book's author lived in Willow Run when he was young, and later found that he was the last person to have lived on the land where the Willow Run Complex was built. He later worked at the plant, so has a good background for writing the book which contains the history of the area, the building of the Bomber Plant and the Development of Willow Run Village. The book also contains many illustrations and will be a great help for our many requests of material on the subject.

Doris Milliman

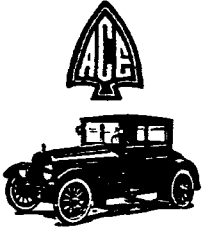
A part of  
the Ypsilanti  
Historical Society

## Ypsilanti Automotive Heritage Collection

112 E. Cross Street • Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198

(313) 482-5200 • (313) 482-4990

### Featuring



Dear Sir or Madam:

Are you a collector? A believer in Ypsilanti? An historic automobile buff? Or, may be all three? Have we got an investment for you!

The Ypsilanti Historical Society (a 501(c)3 non-profit entity) has recently obtained limited edition Kaiser Frazer stock certificates, which are now being offered to the public as a fund raiser for the Ypsilanti Automotive Heritage Collection. All proceeds from the certificates will go toward maintenance of the Collection located at 112 East Cross Street (next to Miller Motor Sales -the last Hudson dealership in operation, established 1927) in Ypsilanti, Michigan.

The Heritage Collection Museum is dedicated to preserving Ypsilanti's prominent role in the history of the automobile, which began in 1919 with the Apex Motor Car Company. Besides other well known manufacturers, the Kaiser Frazer Corporation was an integral part of Ypsilanti's automotive past. In 1945, the company purchased the east Ypsilanti Willow Run B-24 bomber plant for manufacturing its Kaiser and Frazer automobiles. Highlights of the Collection include a 1948 Frazer Manhattan, 1953 Kaiser Dragon, 1963 Chevy II Nova Super Sport hardtop, and a 1969 Corvair Monza with 529 actual miles. Also featured is a full-size Tucker replica made for the movie, "Tucker, a Man and His Dream."

Celebrate the 100th Year of the Automobile by purchasing a part of its past and investing in preserving its history. The Kaiser Frazer stock certificates are printed in increments of \$1 to \$100 (a minimum \$10 patronage is requested), and can be obtained by completing the coupon provided and returning it with your check to:

The Ypsilanti Historical Society  
112 East Cross Street  
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198

If you have any questions or would like additional information please call The Ypsilanti Historical Society at (313) 482-4990 or (313) 482-5200.

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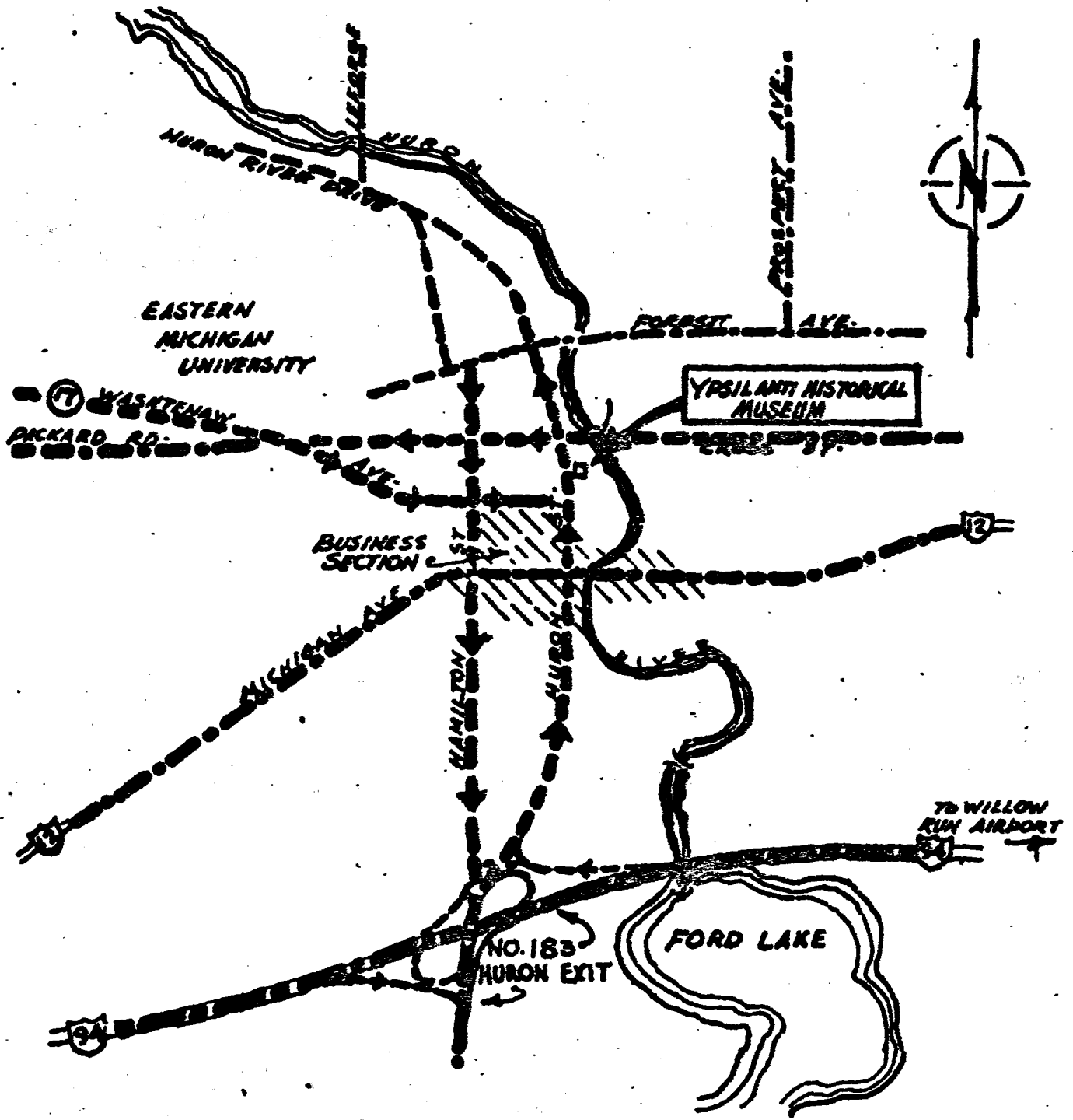
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## CITY OF YPSILANTI MICHIGAN

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9 to 12 NOON

*Atkinson*