

May 1982

YPSILANTI GLEANINGS

PAST SCENES and OLD TIMES

YPSILANTI HISTORICAL SOCIETY ~ PUBLICATION ~



Ypsilanti Historical Museum
~ 220 N. Huron Street ~

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CITY OF YPSILANTI, MICHIGAN
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
1 SOUTH HURON STREET
YPSILANTI, MICHIGAN 48197

March 19, 1981

Dear Friend:

Ypsilanti's great history began in 1809 when three French explorers -- Gabriel Godfroy, Romaine LaChambre and Francois Pepin -- established a trading post on the west bank of the Huron River, 100 yards north of the Old Sauk Trail (Michigan Avenue).

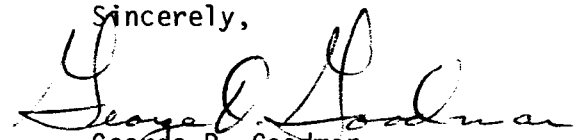
Their enterprise in laying out 2632 acres in 1811 for 4 French Claims is a splendid example to all generations to come.

The efforts of the Ypsilanti Historical Society, organized in 1960, have made us all aware of Ypsilanti's remarkable Heritage. Ypsilanti citizens as well as former residents of our area have become interested in the city's history and learning where their families fitted into scenes of the past.

Ypsilanti now has a fine Historical Museum at 222 N. Huron Street, expertly staffed by volunteers, which is visited every year by more and more people. The Society has a membership of more than 375 and publishes a quarterly known as "Gleanings".

If our Historical Museum is to continue to grow, we need continued financial support and additional family records, photos, diaries, letters and memorabilia.

Sincerely,


George D. Goodman
Mayor

GLEANINGS

MAY, 1982

Publication of the YPSILANTI
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Editorial overseer Foster Fletcher, contributor-composer
Sharon Patterson, contributors: Doris Milliman and Ethel
O'Connor.

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Office of the Ypsilanti Historical Society is at 220 North Huron
Street, Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197.



FOSTER LAMBIE FLETCHER

BORN MAY 16, 1897 in YPSILANTI, MICHIGAN
A FOURTH GENERATION YPSILANTIAN

AN OPEN HOUSE WILL BE HELD ON MAY 16th, 1982 from 2 PM to 4PM
AT THE YPSILANTI HISTORICAL MUSEUM TO CELEBRATE THE 85th
BIRTHDAY OF FOSTER LAMBIE FLETCHER, YPSILANTI CITY HISTORIAN.
THIS EVENT IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND YOU ARE WELCOME TO COME
FOR REFRESHMENTS AND TO JOIN WITH FOSTER'S FAMILY AND FRIENDS
IN HONORING HIS MANY YEARS OF FRUITFUL SERVICE TO THE CITY OF
YPSILANTI AND TO THE YPSILANTI HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

SUNDAY MAY 16th 2 PM to 4 PM



Ypsilanti Historical Museum
220 N. Huron Street ~

THE MAYORS OF YPSILANTI 1858 - 1981

In 1976 the Ypsilanti Archives and Historical Society compiled a booklet of the Mayors of Ypsilanti. It contained photographs of each Mayor and the dates of his term of office.

The biographical profiles of the Mayors of Ypsilanti will be presented in "Gleanings" in three segments. The first profiles appeared in the October, 1981 issue. This is the third of the series.

All research presented is the work of Foster Fletcher, Ypsilanti City Historian.



Rodney Hutchinson
1955-1956 1958-1959

RODNEY HUTCHINSON, born May 8, 1919 in Afton, Michigan in Cheboygan County, son of Herbert C. and Edith O'Connor Hutchinson.

His education included Eastern Michigan University followed by a Law degree from the University of Michigan.

Married Dorothy Morhous on April 13, 1940, daughter of George and Mabel Diest Morhous.

Rodney served as a Councilman in 1954 and was elected Mayor of Ypsilanti in 1955 as the youngest man to hold that office in the history of the City. After a lapse of one term, he was again elected Mayor, 1958-59.

He was a District Judge and then in 1969 was appointed Probate Judge for Washtenaw County.

It was in 1957 that the State Legislature passed Public Act #123 making it possible for cities to raise and appropriate money to help any activity to advance historical interest in a community. On December 21, 1959, Louis S. White, faithfully devoting his great talents as Ypsilanti's acting Historian, petitioned the City Council to establish an Historic Committee and appoint an official City Historian. April 18, 1960, Resolution #60-143 creating the office of City Historian and establishing an Historical Committee was adopted unanimously by the City Council.

It was Rodney's interest and influence that accomplished this. He and his wife reside at 459 Douglas Street in Ypsilanti.

WILLIAM E. FOY, born June 1st, 1898 in Valley City, North Dakota, son of F.J. Foy.

The family moved to Coldwater, Michigan and Bill's high school days were spent there.



William E. Foy
1957-1958

In 1917 he enlisted in the United States Navy as Hospital Apprentice 2nd Class and served at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station until World War I ended.

He returned to Coldwater and in June, 1919 graduated from the high school there.

In the Fall of that year he enrolled in the Michigan State Normal College in Ypsilanti, majoring in Physical Education - three years Varsity football and serving as Captain in 1921. He graduated in June of 1922.

Served as a teacher and football coach in Dearborn until 1927 when he returned to Michigan State Normal College to obtain a higher Degree.

December 27, 1928, he married Mae Barber who came from near Williamston, Michigan to attend the Normal College.

From 1927 until 1939 he was head of Physical Education and Recreation at Ypsilanti High School. His third position was with the Detroit Public Schools.

He served as Mayor of Ypsilanti 1957-58 and it was during this tenure that the Athletic Field with a baseball diamond was made on old Race Street now named Catherine Street, where the flat land is bordered by the River and the water filtration plant.

Always energetic and interested in Civic and physical fitness programs, Bill also served as Commander of American Legion Post 282 in 1936.

He died in November, 1979 and is buried in Barancas National Cemetery, United States Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Florida. His widow, Mae Barber Foy, lives at 8952 Carissa Lane, New Port Richey, Florida 33553.

DONALD B. FULFORD, born September 12, 1918 in Wayne, Michigan, son of Charles R. and Meda Bills Fulford.



Donald B. Fulford
1960-1961

Don graduated from Ypsilanti High School and attended Michigan State Normal College.

A veteran of WW II he served four terms on the Ypsilanti City Council and was elected Mayor in 1960.

As a Methodist, he served as Superintendent of the First Methodist Church Sunday School and was always active in community affairs.

Married Barbara Hubbell of Plymouth, Michigan on June 27, 1942.

Donald Fulford died April 20, 1981.

JOHN CALDER, son of Eugene B. and Frieda Calder, born December 9, 1920, Bergenfield, New Jersey.

John came to Ypsilanti in 1938, graduated from Ypsilanti High School and attended Michigan State Normal College. He attended

a College in Tampa, Florida for a year on a football scholarship.

He returned for one more year at the Michigan State Normal College and then served four years in the Air Corps of the Navy. After the war two more years of College and without graduating, he worked in the auditing department for Kaiser-Frazer.

When Kaiser-Frazer closed, John joined Ford Motor Company in purchasing at the Rawsonville plant and when he resigned from the Company he was Division Purchasing Coordinator.

Always interested in Civic and Church affairs, he was a member of the Moose Lodge, American Legion Post 282, Little



John Calder
1961-1962 1963-1964

League team manager and his biography is in the 1965 edition of The Leading Men in the U.S.A.

John Calder served as Mayor of Ypsilanti in 1961 and again in 1963. He has his own successful business, John Calder Associates, and represents several industries as Sales Agent.

John succeeded in having a new Post Office built in Ypsilanti and was also instrumental in Urban Renewal and Parkridge.



Maurice Obermeyer
1962-1963

MAURICE D. OBERMEYER, born on January 7, 1904 in Jacksonville, Illinois, son of Charles Abner and Myrtle Six Obermeyer. After graduating from High School, he attended an Engineering School in Scranton, Pennsylvania. Then followed an administrative position with the Gas and Electric Company in Oklahoma City and in 1932 joined his brother in the oil business leasing thousands of acres in Oklahoma, Kansas and Texas. However, the great Depression came and they saw the price of crude oil drop from \$1.70 to 10cents a barrel. Maurice returned to engineering and spent several years in Peoria, Illinois. When WW II came he joined the staff of the Public Housing Authority in Chicago doing site engineering for that government agency. He was sent to Ypsilanti as project manager and supervising engineer and was in charge of the war

time housing in Willow Run Village.

Not only was he sent to check on the Parkridge Housing in Ypsilanti, but figured estimates and contracts for Camp Breckenridge, Kentucky and Cleveland, Toledo and Fremont, Ohio.

After that was he had the Oldsmobile Agency and operated it for ten years, then joining the real estate firm of Ehman and Greenstreet. He served as President of the Ypsilanti Board of Realtors.

Maurice brought his great engineering experience in housing and

utilities so it was natural that Ypsilanti's Urban Renewal would be established under his guidance.

It was while he was Mayor in 1962 that he succeeded in having the United States Government donate the Post Office building at 229 West Michigan to the City for a Public Library.

Always active in social and civic affairs, he served as Director of the Ypsilanti Kiwanis Club, The United Way, Methodist Church, Republican Party, Phoenix Lodge No. 13, and Washtenaw Country Club.

He and his wife, Vivian, a native of Jacksonville, now live in Ann Arbor.

Much of this material was lifted from the Ypsilanti Press of April 4, 1962, an article written by Eileen Harrison.



Vincent Buck
1964-1965

VINCENT BUCK, born March 7, 1926, Marshall, Michigan, son of Lyle and Glenda Buck. He came to Ypsilanti in the 1930's.

Vince attended Florida Naval Academy in St. Augustine, Florida and in 1944 was in the B 12 Program at Alma College, Alma, Michigan.

After the World War II, he joined the A.J. Heinz Company as a salesman with Washtenaw County as his territory. Soon the Company advanced him and his territory covered the State of Michigan and part of Ohio.

In 1968 he became a Salesman for Ehman and Greestreet. This led to his development of Pine Ridge Sub-

division on Textile Road.

Being well and favorably known, he was elected Mayor of Ypsilanti in 1964 following John Calder. The Greek Theater was promoted that year and a big production of the old Greek Tragedy was produced on the baseball field at Eastern Michigan University with Judith Anderson and Burt Lahr in starring roles. Even the eminent New

York Times Theater critic came from New York with other critics to see the production. Also during his year as Mayor, the City made possible the expansion of property on both sides of lower Race Street now called Catherine Street.

Land at the corner of South Prospect and Towner Street was acquired and a new Beyer Hospital built.

Vince purchased the property at 950 West Cross Street in 1970 (where Alton "Red" Allison had operated a Shell Gas Station for many years) and it is now the modern home of the Buck Realty.

October 18, 1947 Vincent Buck and Suzanne Oakes were married.

The City of Ypsilanti's fiscal year is from July 1st to June 31st and that makes the term of Vincent Buck as Mayor from July 1st, 1963 to June 31st, 1964. He was succeeded by Jerry Gooding.

NOTE Biographical sketches of Jerry F. Gooding, Susan H. Sayre, John Burton, Timothy Dyer, Richard Boatwright and George D. Goodman will appear as the final segment of our Mayors series.



Virginia M. Chevalier
1563 S. Congress
Ypsilanti, MI

Mrs. Marion Edwards
313 Crandall
Albion, MI

Michael Hoffheimer
1460 Viniversity Terrace
Ann Arbor, MI

Bob Maday
P.O. Box 464
Ypsilanti, MI

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Minzey
1506 Gredory
Ypsilanti, MI

Edna Peach
10987 Silver Lake Rd.
South Lyon, MI

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Van de Walker
2062 McKinley
Ypsilanti, MI

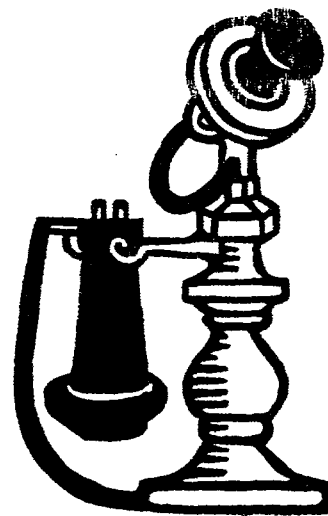
Margery King Webb
732 Woodfield Dr.
Jackson, MI

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Woodruff
2812 Seminole Road
Ann Arbor, MI

Judith Williston
1300 Roosevelt Blvd.
Ypsilanti, MI

It is our pleasure, always, to welcome New Members. We are so glad to have you with us!

Look! Look! Look!
The Upsilanti Historical
Society
is having a



BARN SALE

Saturday, August 28, 1982

We need good household items,
furniture & collectibles:

We need your help, too!

Please give your "trash and treasures" for us.

Call us by August 25th for pick-up

Or bring to the Museum 12:00-5:00 P.M.
August 26th and 27th.

For pick-up call

Renee Burgess 482-2203
Doris Milliman 483-3236
Museum 482-4490

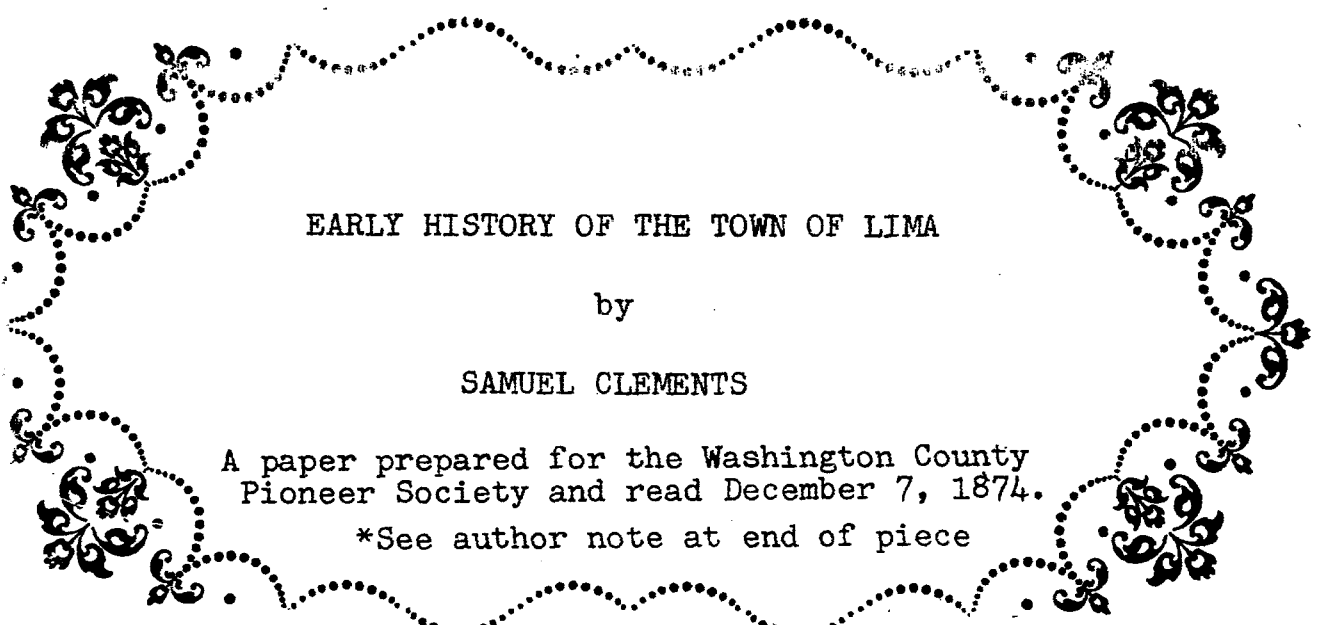


Look! Look! Look!

LOOK!

LOOK!

LOOK!

A decorative border with a wavy dotted line and ornate floral flourishes in the corners surrounds the title and author information.

EARLY HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF LIMA

by

SAMUEL CLEMENTS

A paper prepared for the Washington County
Pioneer Society and read December 7, 1874.

*See author note at end of piece

About the first of May, 1825, my father, Samuel Clements - late of Ann Arbor, left his family and home, in the town of Seneca, Ontario County, New York, to be, as the expression goes, on a "viewing expedition" to the far west - meaning northern Ohio or Michigan. After an absence of about six weeks he returned and informed us that he had bought a section of land in the Territory of Michigan, in the County of Washtenaw, and including the Forks of Mill Creek, and that we were to remove there as soon as possible.

After the usual auction, to dispose of personal property, and a hasty preparation, our effects were loaded on two wagons and we started for our new home, by way of Buffalo and Lake Erie. There was then but one steamboat on the lake, the Superior - the "Walk-in-the-Water" having been wrecked the season before. The steamboat was not in port when we arrived in Buffalo nor was she expected for several days. We therefore took passage with our goods on board the schooner "Fair Play", Captain Wessie Whitaker. After not an unpleasant voyage of nine days, we arrived in Detroit safely, with all our effects.

With only the delay necessary to buy two yoke of oxen, some seed, wheat and provisions for the family and to load our wagon, we left Detroit on the 6th day of August, 1825, for our future home in the interior. Our first days journeying brought us to Willard's Tavern below Springwells and near the River Rouge. The second night we stayed with a man named Durm on the Toguish Plains below the present village of Plymouth. The third night, late, we arrived at the home of Mr. Sutton, about five or

six miles northeast of Ann Arbor, I think in the town(ship) of Ann Arbor. Here we found hospitality. But our oxen concluded they had penetrated into the interior as far as they cared to and when they were turned loose, instead of feeding and resting, they took up a retrograde march and were not overtaken the next day until they had been pursued six or eight miles. This mishap delayed us so that our fourth night was spent in Ann Arbor at the house of Walker Rumsey. This house was situated on the southside of Huron Street and was built in the hillside near where Niel's building stands. From there we went to Dexter, or as it was then called "the mouth of Mill Creek", arriving on the east bank of the creek, where the village of Dexter was subsequently built, about ten o'clock, A.M.

There was then standing on the west side of the creek a small log house occupied by the family of Charles B. Raylor, where the men in the employ of Honorable S.W. Dexter were boarded. When we arrived on the east bank, as above stated, we saw a number of men engaged in bulding a dam across the creek and in framing the timber for the saw mill which was raised soon after.

Having rested here perhaps half an hour, we turned to the left, up the creek, and pursued our way where no wheel had ever marked the soil. Our objective point was the forks of the creek. We reached our destination on August 10th, about four o'clock, P.M. Our wagon was speedily unloaded and a tent formed by sewing four common sheets together was prepared and erected. In this little tent and the covered wagon we lived six weeks, during which time my father provided hay for his team during the winter from the prairie-plowed six acres of land contiguous to the tent and sowed it to wheat and built a log house eighteen by twenty-four feet.

The United States patent for this farm is before me. It is dated September 1st, 1825 and signed by J.Q. Adams, President and George Graham, Commissioner of the General Land Office. It describes the east half and the east half of the northwest quarter and the east half of the southwest quarter of Section 24, also the east half of the northwest quarter and the west half of the

northeast quarter of Section 25 - all in Township 2 south of Range 4 west - now known as the Township of Lima.

It is believed this is the first entry of public lands in this township. It is certain that my Father's family was the first settled in the town by several years. Our nearest and only neighbor on the east was Ann Arbor, distant eight miles. On the south, Tecumseh, connected with a mission at the mouth of the Saint Joseph river, distant over two hundred miles. During the same autumn, i.e. of 1825, Sylvanus and Nathiel Noble, having sold the farms where they first settled, about one mile north of Ann Arbor, removed to new locations about a mile and a half west of Dexter. They were distant from our home, by direct road, four and a half miles.

The first settlers in the township after us were Capt. Jerome Loomis, who located and occupied the farm now owned by Alexander Dancer. William Baucher, who located and settled upon the farm owned by the late William H. Cook and William Wightman, whose farm joined the one last named on the west. These settlements were made in 1827. In 1828 Hiram Putnam located and settled upon the farm now owned and occupied by John Smith in the town of Scio and distant from my Father's about one and one half miles north and east. About the same time Joseph Arnold and Rufus Crossman settled in the immediate neighborhood of the Messrs. Noble already referred to in the town of Dexter.

In 1829 Hezekiah Riggs bought the land which my Father owned in Section 25 and moved his family onto it at once. He was a blacksmith and was the first blacksmith in the town. In 1830 Marvin Cadwell, Francis Daugherty and James and Thomas Mitchell came into the township. 1831, John Davis, Calvin Winslow, Jacob White, Thomas Haffy, Lemuel Scott, Richard Snell, William Lemmon, Elias Easton and John D. Doan become citizens of the town. In 1832, James and John Mitchell, William McCauley, Mr. Randall, Curtis Hurd, Samuel Cooper and John Harford were added to our population.

The Territorial Road, leaving the "Chicago Turnpike" at

Sheldon's in the town of Canton, Wayne County and running a westerly course through Ann Arbor and the point where the Indian Trail crossed Mill Creek, to the mouth of the Saint Joseph river was authorized by the Legislative Council of 1829 and surveyed and established in 1830. This road passed through the points where the cities of Jackson and Marshall and the villages of Albion and Kalamazoo have since been built. These places were located and the county seats were established at Jackson, Marshall and Kalamazoo for the respective counties very soon after. During the ten or fifteen years which followed, until the railroad was constructed, the tide of immigration and travel along this road was immense.

In 1827 the townships since known as Webster, Scio, Dexter and Lima and all the settlements west within the county were organized for township purposes and the "Town Meetings", for electing town officers and doing town business were held on the first Monday in April in each year at the village of Dexter.

In response to a petition from the inhabitants, the Legislative Council in 1834 organized the present town of Lima into a body corporate and the following is the official record of its first township meeting so far as relates to the election of officers.

"At the first Township Meeting in and for the township of Lima, held at the house of John Harford, in the said township on the first day of April in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty-four, by the electors of said township, meeting was called to order by Russell Parker, one of the Justices of the Peace in said Township between the hours of nine and twelve o'clock in the forenoon.

The electors present then proceeded to choose, viva voci, an elector to officiate as Clerk of said meeting; and likewise an elector to preside at such meeting and superintend the same as Moderator. Accordingly, John K. Bingham was chosen Clerk and Oliver L. Cooper as Judge of this election, who severally took the oath prescribed by law.

The meeting being organized and proclamation duly made

for the opening of the polls, the electors of the township aforesaid then proceeded to the business of said meeting and the following persons were duly elected to fill the several offices, viz:

Supervisor Russell; Township Clerk John K. Bingham; Assessors, Elijah Cooper, Darius Pierce, Lemuel Scott; Constable and Collector Elias Easton; Commissioners of Highways, Rodney Ackley, Samuel Cooper, John Davis, Commissioners of Common Schools: Frederick S. Sheldon, Solomon Sutherland, Oliver L. Cooper; Inspectors of Common Schools, Samuel B. Bradley, Oliver L. Cooper, Darius Pierce, Elkana P. Downer, Deacon G. Willetts; Pound Master, John Harford; Fence Viewers, Curtis Hurd, John K. Bingham.

My father built the first frame barn ever built in the town in 1828. Captain Jerome Loomis, Marvin Cadwell and William Wightman had each erected a small frame house before my Father built his in 1831. The first school in the town was held in an addition to my Father's log house in the South west part of the town near what was known as Bingham's Mill. The school in Lima Center was organized next in order but at what date I am unable to say.

Religious enterprise was almost contemporaneous with the earliest settlements. My first remembrance of religious meetings is of those held at intervals of four weeks at the home of the late G.W. Peters in the town of Scio in the summer of 1826-27 by a Baptist minister whose name I have forgotten. The late Rev. C.G. Clark, a Prespyterian minister, was one of the earliest ministers in this section of the country. He established an appointment for regular meetings every alternate Sunday in the forenoon at the house of Joseph Arnold in the town of Dexter in 1828 or 1829 and continued to preach there for two or three years.

A Baptist minister named Carpenter, who resided on the east side of the Huron a few miles above the village of Dexter, was among the earliest preachers. He held religious meetings at my Father's house every four weeks regularly, for about three years between 1831 and 1834. My Father's house was the first

regular meeting place in the town. In the spring of 1832 two young men, members of the Ohio Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the Revs. E.H. Pilcher and E.C. Gavit, then traveling what was called the Ann Arbor Circuit, established a regular appointment for preaching, once in two weeks, at the house of Rev. Arannah Bennett and organized a Society there. This is believed to have been the first religious organization in the town.

The Ann Arbor Circuit, as it was then constituted, embraced, in this County, the towns of Ann Arbor, Lodi, Scio, Webster, Dexter and Lima, and in Jackson County, Grass Lake, Leoni, Jackson, Sand Stone and Spring Arbor. The appointments were so numerous as to require of both preachers a service nearly every day in the week. In the fall of 1832, Revs. William M. Sullivan and Luther D. Whitney were appointed to the Ann Arbor Circuit and they established an appointment for preaching at my Father's house every alternate Monday afternoon or evening, thence they went to the house of "Elder Bennett" and preached on Tuesday evening. These were believed to have been the first regular appointments for religious services according to the usages and forms of the Methodist Episcopal Church established in the town.

About this time a Baptist congregation was gathered in the south west part of the town near Bingham's Mill under the pastoral care of Rev. Dalelson, an old gentleman whose house was in the north east corner of the town of Sharon. They met in the log school house to which I have already referred.

In 1834 or 1835 a Congregational Church was organized at the center of the town, I think under the pastoral care of Rev. H.H. Northrup who divided his labors between this society and one in the village of Dexter. The first Christian minister who lived in the town was the Rev. Arannah Bennett, a local elder of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was a man of considerably more than ordinary native talent, of a very fair degree of cultur, pure minded, a deeply pious Christian and a zealous Methodist but at the same time a man of a liberal and catholic spirit. He was a very laborious man, cultivating a large farm during the week time and preaching somewhere in the vicinity

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nearly every Sunday. In the absence of the regular minister he held religious services among his neighbors at Lima Center and always commanded full congregations. He was ready at every call to visit the sick and bury the dead; and his burdens in this direction were often very heavy as he not unfrequently went from ten to fifteen miles to attend funerals without a thought of fee or reward.

The first church edifice in the town was erected by the Congregational Society in 1842 or 1843. The first Methodist Episcopal Church was completed in 1849. These were the only church edifices that have been erected in the town.

The men of principal prominence in the town during its early history, as I remember them, were Russell Parker, Calvin Chipman, Rodney Ackley, Darius Pierce, Rev. Arannah Bennett, Oliver L. Cooper, Richard Snell, William Cooper, John K. Bingham, Russell Whipple, Dr. Samuel B. Bradley, General Asa Williams, John Bacon, William Crossman and Jacob A. Hoover.

These men, as I remember them, will compare very favorably with their successors. They were men of real worth, of fearless enterprise and public spirit, of tireless industry and independent thought. Their surrounding circumstances may have stimulated these virtues and no doubt did very largely. But the fact that they voluntarily entered into these circumstances is evidence that they possessed inherently those essential elements of character which assured and gave them success. A coward never runs into danger voluntarily and a lazy man never seeks a place where he must work or starve. Let their memory be gratefully cherished by those who have entered into their labors and enjoy the garnered fruits of their privations and toils. Many of them are now dead; and those who remain have lost their early fire and vigor and now totter in the decrepitude which age and their former exposures and toils have brought upon them. I now find myself a stranger in my early home, rarely meeting anyone I know in the place where I once knew every man, woman and child.

Of the principal men in the Congregational Church, I recall William Cooper, Thomas Mitchell, Henry Markell, Rufus Crossman, Deacon G. Willetts, David Dixon, Mr. Ward and W.A.L.

Shaw. Those of the Baptist Church, Hiram Gregory, Calvin Chipman, and William Lemmon. Those in the Methodist-Episcopal Church, Rev. Arannah Bennett, Oliver L. Cooper, Elias Westfall, Richard Snell, Hiram Andrews, Joshua Cushman and Abram Arnold.

The first Physician who located in the town to practice his profession was Dr. William Bassac, now of Manchester. Dr. Samuel B. Bradley came into the town several years before Dr. Bassac but he did not practice much and did not desire to. He had retired from practice before coming here and settled upon a farm when he came, intending to follow farming for a living but he died after a residence among us of only two or three years.

Mr Father's farm was on what was called the St. Joseph Indian Trail where it crossed Mill Creek. Large companies of Indians came and went along this trail in the early times of this section of Michigan, on their way to Malden, now Amherstburg, in Canada, for their annuities, or "presents" as they were called, from the British government for services in the War of 1812. I have seen as many as seven hundred in a company. They did not, however, go in such large "droves" as they were called but in companies of from ten to thirty or forty. The east bank of the creek where the trail crossed it was about thirty rods distant from our house. This point was the usual camping grounds for these traveling bands. They were uniformly peaceable and orderly, showing as little disposition to trouble people along their route as ordinary travelers.

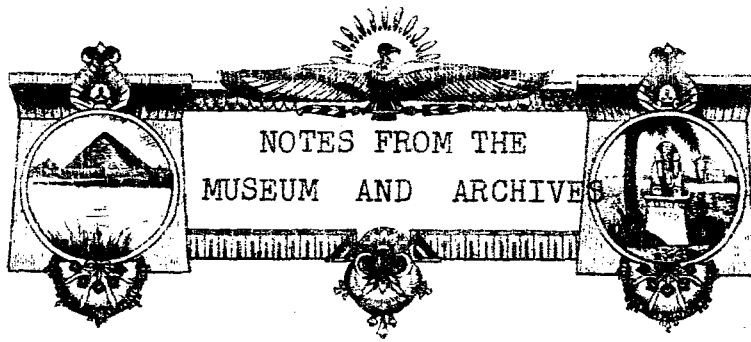
There were also large numbers of Indians living in the country around us. They generally lived in small companies, sometimes a single family by itself, but oftener in groups of from three to six lodges. They were frequently encamped for weeks together within a few rods of our house and came to our house at all hours by day and night for trade or hospitality. They were generally peaceable and respectful, sometimes, however, when intoxicated, they were insolent and ugly. On one occasion two Indians came to our house drunk. My Father was absent and my Mother was alone with the children, there being no men near.

The Indians were very insolent, demanding food. This, at the time was very scarce, but my Mother, who was frightened, gave them pork and potatoes but this did not satisfy them. They wanted bread. Of this we were ntirely destitute at the time. They became so rude and insolent that my Mother, becoming greatly alarmed was about sending two of my sisters, little girls - one ten and the other twelve, to Dexter at evening twilight for help. But before they started she thought to give them something to eat and accordingly, kneading a cake, placed it in the spider before the fire to bake. The Indians watched this cake intently and as soon as it was nearly baked one of them seized it and wrapping his blanket around it, they both bolted for the door and mounting their ponies with a savage yell of triumph, galloped away. My Mohter, relieved of her annoying guests, proceeded, with the aid of the children, to barricade the door and window so strongly that it would have required a Roman battering ram to affect an entrance. After this she made another cake and gave us our supper. Our guests gone, we slept quietly during the night, nor did either of them ever return to our house.

On another occasion an Indian came to our house intoxicated while the men were all away from home, except my brother - a lad about fifteen at that time. He demanded whiskey. When told that we had none, he semed incredulous and proposed to search the premises. He started to go into the chamber up the ladder by which we ascended. My brother, seizing a two-tined pitchfork which happened to be standing at the door, displayed its glittering prongs in such a threatening manner when Mr. Indian suddenly gave up his search and, concluding we might have told the truth, walked quietly away.

TO BE CONTINUED

*NOTE Samuel Clements, Sr. came to the Territory of Michigan in 1825. Louis White copied the narrative from a typed copy in the possession of Harvey C. Clements of Ann Arbor. Samuel Clements, Sr. died June 16, 1866 and is buried in the Parker Cemetery, Lima Township. He was born August 12, 1780 near Seneca, Ontario County, New York. 1st marriage to Catherine Lacy on April 29, 1810. Catherine was born July 30, 1785 and after seven children including a set of twins, she died April 20, 1850. The Clements "took up" about 640 acres in Sec. 15, Lima Township.



With the coming of Spring the Museum experiences an influx of students and teachers from the local school districts. This last week three third grade classes from Adams School spent an interesting afternoon on tour. On Tuesday, April 20th, Jean Scott arranged to have Jeanne Jordan, Ethel O'Connor, Flora Block and Marge Gauntlett assist her with Mrs. Jesse's call of 25 students. On Wednesday, April 21st Marge Gauntlett organized a tour for Ms. Thornberry's class of 25 students with guides Bonny Osborn, Jerry Fouchey and Dottie Disbrow. Ann McCarthy had help from Dottie Disbrow and Rene Moran as Bonita Stowe led her 28 students with the aid of student teacher, Miss Stinger.

The Archives has been a busy place. Seventy-three earnest researchers have poured over the files, and the maps and the genealogical card file in the last seven weeks. Volunteers make so much of this work possible, too. Elinora Miller and Ruth Reynolds and Rene Moran are invaluable.

What would we do without so many hands?

Foster Fletcher, our City Historian, was one of the featured speakers at the Ypsilanti Public School district-wide Teacher In-Service day on February 19, 1982 entitled "Ypsi Generations: Past Present and Future". Teachers were interested in his wealth of knowledge and found the time allotted far too brief.

The Ypsilanti Historical Society met on March 21st at the Museum with John Kirkendall, local attorney, as the featured speaker. John is multi-faceted and many talented. The topic for the afternoon was "Examples and Samples of Cooking in America's Restored Villages". John's casual cooking style produced delicate little pastry shells with a lemon cheese filling and a fluffy omelet, plump with cheese and sausage and apple. The samples

quickly disappeared and the recipes showed up in kitchens all over town before the week was out. John promised to come again and we look forward to another pleasant afternoon. Kathryn Howard and Rene Burgess served refreshments which John pronounced quite good. It was the cook's day!

Doris Milliman, Rene Burgess and Sharon Patterson attended the Local History Conference held at MacGregor Center on the campus of Wayne State University on Friday, the 16th of April. Rene Moran and Foster were left behind to mind the Archives. There was a selection of seminars on Museum Education, Michigan History and Folklore. Luncheon was held at the Detroit Historical Museum. It was an opportunity to talk to others and listen to experts. The ladies had an interesting day.

Tuesday evening, Foster accepted an invitation to speak on historical downtown Ypsilanti and other historical buildings. to Mary's Circle of the First Baptist Church. The meeting was held at Mr. and Mrs. William Graubner's home on April 20th. Foster used copies of original photos in the Archive collection to illustrate the history and development of the City and had an audience eager to know more. He was treated to Marian's wonderful apple cake which he felt was the highlight of the evening.

We must comment on the response to the Letter reminding the membership of Dues. Your response was overwhelming! We appreciate such an outpouring of support. Thank you! It is interesting to note that the Historical Society has 395 dues-paying members and 207 of them are up-to-date in their dues.



ACQUISITIONS

Winifred Elliot
Ypsilanti, MI

Margaret Ogilvy by J.M. Barrie,
New York: Charles Scribner & Son
1897.

Charles Liskow
Ypsilanti, MI

Black fur muff, down filled.

Lining for muff, down.

Embroidered laundry bag.

Crocheted bedcover (incomplete).

Crocheted bedcover, youth size.

Lace jabot.

18 pieces of crocheted lace, in-
cluding pineapple, greek key, bird,
flower and posies, and butterfly
designs.

2 handmade lace collars.

Handcrocheted yoke for nightgown.

Black silk fringe and matching
buttons.

Thread picture (hungarian stitch),
incomplete.

Ladies Laundry List booklet.

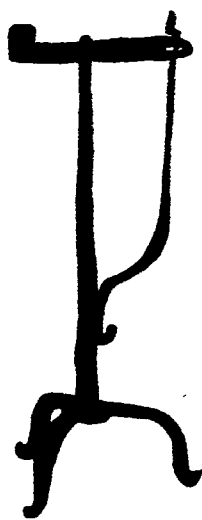
Designs for needlework including
"Designs for Cross-stitch Embroidery",
"Book of Cross-Stitch and Crochet
in Color".

Note: Most of the handwork was done by Mary Ann Hemingway Skinner,
grandmother of Charles and Mary Liskow. (born 1853 - died 1928)

Carl Worley
Ypsilanti, MI

White's First Book of Arithmetic,
American Book Co. 1890.

Photograph of Co. E 34th Infantry
Michigan State Troopers, Volunteers.
Summer of 1943 in Detroit in front
of Highland High School.



Rush and Candle Holder

ACQUISITIONS con't.

Carl Worley
Ypsilanti, MI

Records of Thorn School, District #3,
Township of Ypsilanti, County of
Washtenaw 1909-1927 in two separate
ledgers detailing expenses, staff,
School Board Membership, etc.

Mrs. Carl Miller
Ypsilanti, MI

1938 Calendar - Dionne Quintuplets,
"The Five Little Sweethearts of
the World" issued by Frank O.
Jackson Coal Co. 8" X 12".

1937 Calendar - "The Dionne Quin-
tuplets" issued by Frank O. Jackson
Coal Co. 12 X 14".



Bar of Grandpa's Wonder Pine Tar
Soap in original box.

Giant Match Book advertising "Town
Tavern Straight Rye Whiskey".

Pair of boy's suspenders.

5 Bella Vista Farms Dairy bottle
caps.

Medicine Box from Fuller's Drug
Store, 230 Michigan W., Ypsilanti,
Michigan

Black silk scarf.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Gridley
Ypsilanti, MI

Mackinac Bridge Souvenir dated
June 26, 27 and 28, 1958 by Mackinac
Bridge Dedication Festival Committee.

Gertrude Murray
Ypsilanti, MI

Stationary from Ypsilanti School
Centennial, 1849 - 1949.

Foster Fletcher
Ypsilanti, MI

"School Savings System of the
Normal Training School" in account
with Manley Lambie, teacher Margaret
E. Wise.

Mrs. Carl Miller
Ypsilanti, MI

City of Ypsilanti Council Proceed-
ings 1905-1906.

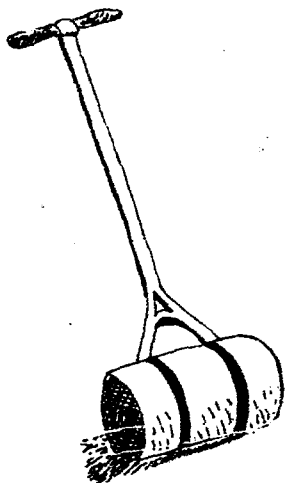
Mr. Carl Worley
Ypsilanti, MI

Old Fashioned Home Songs, School
Edition, undated.

Morehead's Family Almanac, 1859
published by D.C. Morehead, M.D.

ACQUISITIONS con't.

Mrs. Gilbert Whitaker, Jr.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104



Helen Smallidge
Ypsilanti, MI

Mr. and Mrs. James Campbell
Ypsilanti, MI

Mr. and Mrs. John Kornikakis
Ypsilanti, MI



Esther Ensign
Ypsilanti, MI

Xerox copy of 1864 Washtenaw Co.
Atlas from Michigan Historical
Collections.

Notes on Persons buried in Judd
Cemetery. Xerox copy.

Index to Lyndon Township Land
Owners from Ogles 1895 Atlas.
Xerox copy.

Index to York "Township Land
Owners from Ogles 1895 Atlas".
Xerox copy.

Tin snips, very old.

Flat Axe, head 10" X 10", old
handle has been replaced.

Polk's Ypsilanti City Directory
1958.

Polk's Ypsilanti City Directory
1969-70

Harper's Pictorial History of the
Great Rebellion by Alfred H.
Buernsey and Henry M. Alden, pub.
McDonnell Bros., Chicago, Ill.
dated 1866.

Needlecraft Magazine, January 1929

Sheet music, "School of Reed Organ
Playing" by Charles M. Landon.

"Compositions by William Mason"
from the James Breakey Library.

Records: Edison "Gasse-Noisette
Suite Part III and IV, Valse Des
Fleurs" Tschaikowsky by the American
Symphony Orchestra.

Edison "Saxophone Fantasie" Saxo-
phone with orchestra with Rudy
Wiedoeft.

"The Etude" April, 1893.

"The Song Journal" March, 1896.

Fiftieth Anniversary Souvenir
Edition, Class of 1931, Ypsilanti

ACQUISITIONS con't.

Esther Ensign



High School, Ypsilanti, MI dated
June 13, 1961.

Photo Album detailing the genealogy
of the Crawford - Wilson Family
from 1811. Includes Michigan
Centennial Family Certificate,
Marriage Certificate (copy) and
photographs. This is a very
complete family history and re-
flects the careful research of
Esther Ensign.

Clara Anderson (deceased)
presented by
Carrie Huston
Ypsilanti, MI

Sheet Music: "March of Progress"
by J.R. Shannon, souvenir of the
opening of Grinnell Bros. new
Detroit Headquarters. 1908.

"Ypsi High Good-Bye" words by
John E. Brooks and music by
George P. Becker.

Mrs. Kenneth Lamb

Charcoal Portrait of a man, 15" X 18"
unsigned and undated.

Charcoal Portrait of a woman, 15" X 18"
unsigned and undated.

(Portraits probably done at the
same time by the same artist. Came
out of the Alice J. Beal House but
efforts to identify have been fruit-
less.)

Mrs. Thomas Brooks (Dorothy)
Ypsilanti, MI
(daughter of Howard J. and
Naomi Hand)

Gertrude Woodard's: Remington
Standard No. 6 typewriter with
cover.

Box of Carter's Gossamer Carbon paper.

Framed collection of ferns dating
from 1861.



Complete correspondence of Miss
Woodard in regard to the placing
of her 1902 Covert Motorette in
the General Motors Museum of Trans-
portation in Flint, Michigan. 1957-
1958.

Data on Old Cemetery (now Prospect
Park)

Assortment of personal notes and
clippings.

ACQUISITIONS con't.

Mrs. Thomas Brooks



C.S. Woodard's: Black Inkwell holder with pen.

Small wooden level, four inch.

3 Triangular rulers, scaled for map drawing.

2 wooden flat rulers scaled metrics.

2 Ink Pens and assortment of points.

1895 Plat Map of Ypsilanti from Atlas.

1825 Plat Map.

2 copies 1845 "Map of the States of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois with settled sections of Michigan and Wisconsin"

Enlargement of the Michigan Section of the 1845 Map listed above.

Pencil drawing on tissue of Machine.

Survey of the Huron River on paper. Pencil sketch, 1902.

Pencil drawing of Charles Hewitt Farm.

"Field Notes of the U.S. Survey of Meanders of Huron River through T3SR8E" Old.

Copy of 1843 Pettibone Map of Washtenaw County.

Hour of Gold, Hour of Lead by Anne Morrow Lindbergh

Bench Vise, 3 ft. 4" in length, very old. From the original Industrial Arts Department at Michigan State Normal College (Eastern Michigan University).

Letter postmarked November 12, 1887 and addressed to Miss Nina Babcock, City from W. Mc.

Program from 1873 "Third Annual Fair" Ypsilanti, Michigan.

Mr. & Mrs Don Gridley
Ypsilanti, MI

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Gilden
Ypsilanti, MI

Leon Chapman
Ypsilanti, MI

ACQUISITIONS con't.

Arthur Howard
Ypsilanti, MI

"Congratulations-Chandler Birth-
day Club" Booklet from Annual
Birthday Tea 1956 - 1982.

Mrs. Paul Bird
Ypsilanti, MI

Woman's Study Club, Ypsilanti,
Michigan 1973-74. Fiftieth
Annual Program.

John Burton
Ypsilanti, MI

Record: "Ypsilanti" a 45 RPM
vocal by Nancy Adams, arranged
by Nancy Adams. Philips Label.

Photograph of group in costume
including Donald Comstock and
Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Comstock.
Approx. 1900.

Mrs. Carl Miller
Ypsilanti, MI

1001 Questions and Answers on the
Theory and Practice of Teaching
by B.A. Hathaway, pub. The Burrows
Bros., Cleveland, Ohio 1886.

McGuffey's Eclectic Spelling Book,
Revised Edition, pub. Van Antwerp
Bragg & Co., Cincinnati & New
York, Dec. 1879.

Park's English Grammar by J.G. Park,
Instructor, pub. by the author 1894.



In 1893 Michigan State Normal College published an Annual called "The Aurora". It was published consecutively from that date. In a recent inventory, we find our collection through 1968 complete excepting the following volumes: 1897, 1908, 1927, 1931, 1933, 1936, 1947, 1958 and 1964. If you have one of the missing "Aurora" yearbooks, we would be glad to complete our collection.

The Administration Committee of the Museum is interested in replacing the salescase in the White Room. The glass is in bad repair. If you know of anyone who will be disposing of a salescase, please call Ann McCarthy or Doris Milliman. They will be glad to hear from you.

YPSILANTI HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND ARCHIVES

President Mrs. William (Ann) McCarthy
Vice-President La Verne Howard
Secretary Mrs. George (Sharon) Patterson
Treasurer Fred Peters

Board Members

Ann McCarthy, La Verne Howard, Fred Peters, Rene Burgess, Doris Milliman, Phoebe Miller, Margaret Bemis, Linda Halbrock, Foster Fletcher, William Edmunds, M.D., and Sharon Patterson.

Administration Committee

Doris Milliman, Chairman, Rene Moran, Ann McCarthy, Eileen Harrison, Flora Block, Deci Howard, Marge Gauntlett, Ethel O'Connor and Sharon Patterson.

Miss Ethel O'Connor, Chairman of Museum Guides
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Howard, Plant Room
Ruth Reynolds, Clothing Curator

Lewis House Board

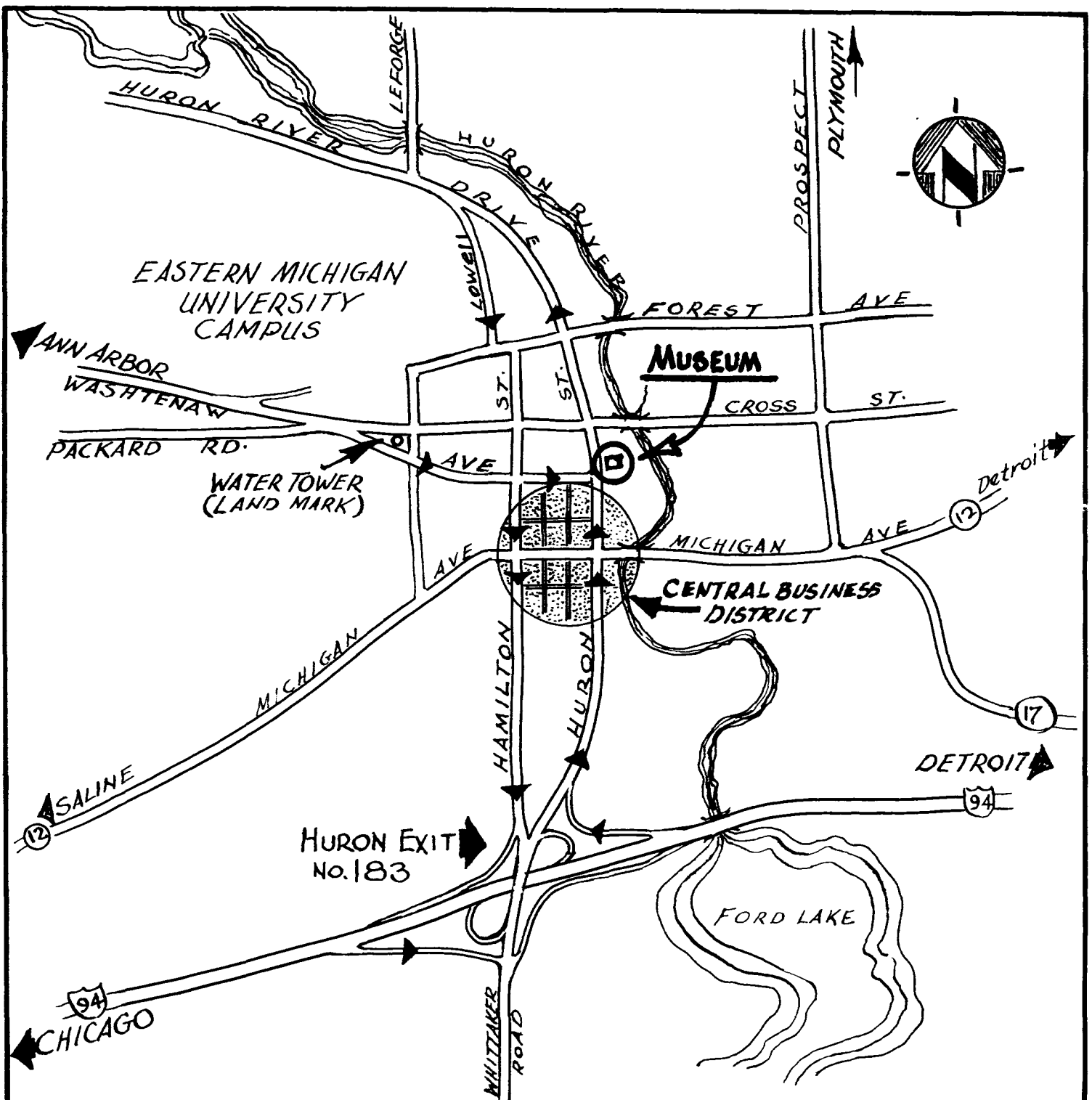
Arthur Howard, Chairman and Treasurer, Evangeline Lewis, La Verne Howard, William Edmunds, M.D., Secretary and Horatio Lewis



State legislation was passed in 1957 authorizing local governing bodies (Ypsilanti City Council) to "raise and appropriate money" and help with "any activity or project which...tends to advance historical interests" of the community. Public Act 213, 1957 applies to cities and villages.

February 2, 1960, Mayor Rodney E. Hutchinson appointed the following to serve as a Historical Committee: Mrs. H. Z. Wilber, Mrs. George Ennen, C.D. Bassett, T.S. Webber, Westly M. Dawson, Harry F. Shaefer, Miss Clara Sweet, Mrs. Elson (Ruth) Shaw, F.B. McKay, Mrs. M.I. Stadtmiller, E.R. Isbell, Albert W. Brown and the Mayor as Chairman with Louis S. White serving as City Historian.

October 10, 1960, the organizational meeting of the Ypsilanti Historical Society was held in the Estabrook School.



Upsilon Historical Museum

220 N. Huron St.

Ypsilanti Michigan 48197 - Phone 313 - 482-4990

Museum Hours

Foster Fletcher - Historian
Sharon Patterson - Archivist

Fri - Sat & Sun 2-4 PM.
Archives - By Appointment