

YPSILANTI GLEANINGS

PAST SCENES and OLD TIMES

YPSILANTI HISTORICAL SOCIETY- PUBLICATION-

No. 52

January 1987



Ypsilanti Historical Museum
- 220 N. Huron Street -

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GLEANINGS



No. 52

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"Ypsilanti Gleanings-Past Scene and Old Times" is published quarterly for members of the Ypsilanti Historical Society.

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Cover Design and Table of Contents designed by Arthur J. Howard

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Office of Ypsilanti Historical Society is at 220 N. Huron Steet,
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197

Explanation of Names and Dates in Lambie Diary

Francis L. Lambie was forty-five years old when with his wife, Mary Hamilton, he brought his family of nine children to the United States from Strathhaven, Scotland. The oldest of the nine was William Lambie. William was eighteen years old. Just why the family came to America is uncertain. They brought furniture, dishes and many material possessions with them and seemed to be in more than modest circumstances. No mention has been found of relatives in America in 1839. Many Scotch friends were here but Francis and Mary Hamilton Lambie seem to be the first of the Lambies to arrive in America.

In the Spring of 1839, the 'Old Moon Farm' of eighty acres was advertised for sale to settle the Moon estate. This farm is on the south side of Geddes Road and about midway between Prospect and Leforge Rds. This is the farm the Lambies bought and where they lived for fifteen years in a brick structure that had once been a Tavern. Francis Lambie did not care for the United States and always said he wanted to 'die under the Crown' and in 1854 with his wife and younger children emigrated to Canada buying a farm three miles below Windsor, Ontario on the Detroit River.

Robert Campbell and his wife Anne Muir were already in America. Robert's brother, Samuel Campbell came to the States in 1841 and settled at Otisville, 2 miles southeast of Belleville, the settlement is gone but there is an Otisville Cemetery in use today near the location of Otisville. Andrew Muir, Anne Campbell's father was a land buyer and farmer in Augusta Township as early as 1827.

The Robert Campbells lived with friends and relatives in Ypsilanti during the first winter and moved to their farm in Augusta Township in the Spring of 1843. Robert Campbell's mother, Elizabeth McConachie Campbell, had left Scotland early in March 1842, being "forced to flee from the Authorities" for reason unknown. She is said to have brought \$600 in Gold with her and that was the money that paid for the farm. Elizabeth McConachie Campbell died July 31, 1847 at the farm in Augusta.

Mary Campbell and William Lambie were married in Detroit November 11, 1849. William had bought the south half of the Francis Lambie farm in 1844 and in 1850 the young married couple moved from Detroit to that forty acres in Superior Township later buying another forty acres giving access to Clark Road. Their six children (Anne, Mary, Francis, Elizabeth, Isabell and Robert), were all born in the house on that farm-the youngest Robert, married Hattie Younglove and their seven children were also born in that house.

The above is a brief explanation of the Diary we have been including in the "Gleanings". The Diary was started May 1, 1864, by William Lambie-Mr. Lambie was the Grandfather of the late Foster Lambie Fletcher, former Ypsilanti City Historian. Anyone wanting past copies, please let me know and I shall be happy to see that you get a copy.

Billie Zolkosky, Secretary

William Lambie Diary-1884

January 1- Elizabeth gave me this Book to write down about farm life and passing events. Chidester came through the storm to look at the Wool.

January 3- Dismal day and a Dakota blizzard-6 below zero. Part of the land drifted deep.

Librarian Davis and Professor Angell acknowledged 'Life on the Farm' for Ann Arbor Library.

The boys loaded two clips of wool to Mr. Chidester. I met Brother Robert and again was treated far better than I expected-There is a strange difference between those who have read the same Bible and been brought up in the same family.

January 8- Not so cold-paid Robert \$70 and Mary \$25 all I owe them-was docked on the heavy fleece from .30cents to 27½ and all we got was \$269 for two yeras wool and all our labor.

January 10- The boys took a grist to town and we went to the gathering at the Opening of the Sanatorium where there was speeches and dancing.

January 15- Cold and dreary-takes most of the day to feed the stock, break the ice and get wood and water.

Saw an alarming fire east of us at bed time.

January 18- John Campbell brought up Mrs. L and went to Ann Arbor to hear Mathew Arnold.

January 22- Frank took me to the Depot and went to the Farmers Institute at Chelsea and read a poem-was kindly treated and stayed overnight with Mr. and Mrs. Sears and enhyoyed the warmth of their fine home. Next day saw Mr. Sears large stock and barn.

January 26- Frank and Charles Fletcher went to Augusta and Mr. Campbell bought Mr. Fletcher's farm.

January 29- Mary and I went to town, met John Campbell and he told us his infant son was dead-

Mr. Campbell came and had the Fletcher farm deeded to Mrs. L.

January 30- New Baptist Church dedicated.

Janaury 31- Went to Detroit, called on James and helped Mother-left them rejoicing on Bruce Avenue.

February 1- Robert adn Jones cut wood, thrashed beans and then Robert went skating. Frank made his appearance after supper as usual.

February 3- More icy rain-great floods on the Ohio River.

February 19-Mr. Campbell came and reviewed his new farm beside us. Wrote Mother a letter for her 87th Birthday.

Lambie Diary- 1884

March 1- 10 below zero.

March 5- Mary and I went to Pioneer Meeting- A large social friendly party. Ex Governor Felch gave personal reminiscence of Webster-grand feast under the Church.

March 11-Robert now 21-hardly seems possible.

March 17-The boys went to Augusta and brought up furniture to Mrs. L's new home and two more big loads.

March 19-Mr. Fletcher left his farm and the Boys and Belle went to take possession of Mrs. L's new home.

March 20-Rain, snow and mud-too wet for the boys to go to their Grandfather's.

March 22-Old Mr. & Mrs. Campbell came to their new home. William, Andrew, John, Dan Campbell and our boys and Belle and Mrs. L all helping to put house in order.
Old Mr. Campbell is in sad condition.

March 25-Mary and I went to Town with butter and eggs-butter 30 cents-eggs 20 cents-Walked up to the new farm-climbing the hill reminded me of Kinkle Hill of younger days.

March 30-Went to Church in the morning. Mrs. L came at night saying Grandmother was failing-Frank and Belle got there in time to see her die. The Mother who did so much for her family and humanity has gone from this earth to a glorious Immortality. The boys went to tell our friends of the death.

April 1- All of us went to Grandmother's funeral-Friends met at the farm home on the hill where Grandmother lived a week-burial in Stoney Creek. Uncle Gabriel and Professor Estabrook failed to come.

April 4- Robert drew rails on the hill farm.

April 6- Robert sowed Clover seed with Uncle Andrews machine. Sold about 3 bushels of beans-a profitless crop, bought 8 bushels of shelled corn-we have not need to buy corn of over 20 years-sent an advertisement to the 'Country Gentleman'.

April 10- Went to Town and bought new harness- 7 wild geese on the meadow-Lambs no doing well.

April 15- My Birthday-beginning 64-Took dinner at my daughter's (Elizabeth) Farm and supper on my wife's Farm.

April 18- Robert plowing for Mr. Campbell- Mr. C came for the yearling sheep-24 of them-we drove them to his farm.

Lambie Diary- 1884

April 22- Mr. Campbell and I went to see B. Voorhees' watering places for sheep.

April 28- Grandfather and I went to Augusta-first time no Grandmother to welcome us at the home-went and saw her grave-Old Mr. Hardy was buried.

May 1- Grand Morning-Robert still working on the hill farm-Turned sheep and cows out to pasture and the cow went through the fence vexing me again.

May 2- Robert got 500 feet fence boards- Joe and I made a fence to keep the bothersome cows in the pasture.

May 8- Mr. C and I went to Uncle Williams and Uncle Roberts and was well treated. Robert got Fox and Hones to help him and took 5 loads of wheat to Deubel at a dollara bushel and got a Bank check for \$303-very seldom has any crop I ever raised by hard work so far exceeded my hope.

Grandfather and I went to Augusta to hear a debate on Free Trade in the Grange Hall and went the wrong day, but called on old friend Mrs. Gardner and daughters.

May 14- Robert and Fox plowed with two horses round and round the field.

Heard Mr. Conklin is dead- about the richest man in Ypsilanti and now left his wealth.

May 16- Cut the lambs tails- 13 ewes and 7 rams. Lifted a check from the Bank for \$200; one for \$50; and \$53 in money.

May 22- Went to Detroit with wife and had a pleasant time with Mother and sister-Went to Oak and spent a day with Isabelle- Wm. Todd drove us around to see the glories of Nature-the fruit trees in bloom. Had dinner with Sister Agnes and Mr. Smith(Frank ?) went with us to the grand new Depot.

May 27- G. Voorhees is not as friendly as Ben-he took away the pen and we washed our sheep with Azro taking them way down to Old Addison Fletchers.

May 30- A great turnout decorating the soldiers graves-Mrs. C and Frank went to see Forepaws wonders(?).

June 4- Robert to Mr. C and I to the Salem station and we took the train to Lansing-The Capitol is a splendid building but Pioneer Paper too long and I was weary-stayed over night and then to South Lyon and train to Ann Arbor where we went to R. Campbells where I met an old old friend John Bradford and we visited so long that we missed the train and had to get his horse and buggy to drive home.

June 7- Letter from W.E. Gladstone's secretary-Prime Minister of England-thanking me for 'Life on the Farm'.

Lambie Diary- 1884

June 12- Sheep shearers scarce- Robert and T. Casey shorn sheep slowly. I tied up the Wool-75 sheep. Set a trap to catch the coon that kills the hens and caught a crow-Went and found the big coon sitting by the stream with his foot in the trap.

June 18- Elizabeth very sick for a week-Mr. McConachie came to see Mr. Campbell-Mary sold butter and eggs-bought strawberries-thunder show

June 21- Went with St. Luke's Excursion to Detroit and a sail on the river-had dinner with Mother and sister in Windsor. Went to Scotch Church but saw no one I knew-dinner with sister Agnes-slept that night at Mothers on a lounge.

June 23- Home again weak and weary-Robert got the supper and took care of the Milk.

June 26- Anna came from her School and also Belle.

June 27- Went to Town with Butter and Eggs and a grist for Mr. C. The boys drew in hay for Mr. C. Two old farmers, one 63 and one 83 bunched up the swaths and rode the horse rake.

July 2- Another grand Hay day-the boys got in all the hay-The mower and sulky rake a fine improvement on the sythe and hand rake.

July 4- The boys and girls went away for the Fourth-I took dinner on the Hill Farm and heard the cannon and fire crackers.

July 7- Wheat turning yellow-bought 10 bushels of corn from Harry-Jerome reaped nearly all of Mr. C's wheat.

July 8- Jerome reaped our wheat and did good work-we set it up-Robert and Dan went to Whitmore Lake.

July 11- Paid Wm. Scotney \$25 for Miss Armstrong's teaching. A colored man began to cradle the orchard wheat- the sheep bothered us.

July 15- Brother off to the Sea for his health and I toil in the fields for mine.

July 19- Frank paid \$40 he got from Rolland Fletcher for the white cow-she milked well but vexed us breaking the fence.

July 21- Went for lime-boys mixing mortar and fixing framing for the Cellar they dug on the Hill farm.

July 29- The Mason finished Mr. C's cellar-Robert helped Azro thrash.

August 1-The Colored Peoples Day-Robert came back and said there was 803 bushels of wheat at Azros.

Lambie Diary- 1884

August 2- Our learned friend Gabriel Campbell called on us. He and Mr. C. went to see Andrew-Frank got the rafters on the new addition to the house on the Hill.

August 6- Mr. C, Wife and I went to Walker's Grove with the Methodist

August 9- John Miller reaped the Pats on bothe places-helped to set up sheaves.

August 10- Mr. C, Mrs. L, Belle, Frank, Robert and I went to the Congregational Church and heard our friend G. Campbell preach a good sermon.

August 13- Mrs. L and I went to Frederick Graves Daughter's funeral.

August 15- G. Campbell left for her home in New Hampshire after a big picnic gathering at Elizabeths.

August 18- Got a picture of our family that Father painted 50 years ago.

August 26- Mr. C, Wife and I went with Azro and Elizabeth to Azro's Father's farm for a picnic- very dusty and got my hands pressed by shaking hands.

August 28- Mr. C having chimney built at the Hill house.

August 31- We went to Stoney Creek Church and put flowers on Grand-mother's grave. Had dinner with J. Campbell.

September 1-Jones dug and I gathered potatoes-Robert harrowed. Borrowed \$100 from Brother Robert for Mrs. L. Harry came and paid for two sheep he sold.

September 4-Robert and I went to Mr. Lumises and got 30 bushels of seed wheat \$25.57 and started drilling it.

SEptember 10-Got coal and looked for the thrashers adn they finished the Oats and Wheat on the Hill farm before noon. 3 colored men worked on the stack-Our barley adn wheat out by sun down-27 of Barley and 255 of Wheat-plenty of good help-not a heavy yield.

September 13-Fox began to cut corn at \$1 an acre-Belle went to the Normal-Sent James' letter to Frank about paying his Mother-Son Frank sold the steer to Roll and for \$45-Went to the Depot to hear Logan-William Campbell's carriage turned over and hurt him and his father.

September 18-Frank finished lathing the addition to the House on the Hill and plasters completed it. Walked over to Elizabeth's School. Her Schoolshook and she thought it like an earthquake and it proved so-some of the scholars ran out of the School in fear.

September 22-Heard of old Mr. Jarvis' death-A welcome shower in the morning-Belle got Mr. Campbell a big dictionary.

Lambie Diary- 1884

September 25-We all went to the Fair-grand day-good crowd-met some old friends-was introduced to General Alger.

October 1- Mr. Breed and Joshia Childs came. Mr. C and I went to Whittaker and Augusta Farm. Robert drew a load of corn and painted in the new home.

October 2- Fine crop of corn, Fox husking for $3\frac{1}{2}$ cents a bushel and Robert hauling it to the Hill farm.

October 5- Mr. C went to Church with us. Harvest Service in the Congregational and Episcopal Churches but no feast of ingathering in ours.

October 10- Mrs. Todd and daughter and Mrs. Inglis and daughter made us a pleasant visit-Called on Elizabeth and Azro and drove round by the old Moon Farm and had strange memories of early life in America. Went for dinner in Brother Robert's grand home.

October 19- Took up furniture and put down carpets in the new home. We all had dinner there. The old home where we lived for 30 years stripped of furniture and carpets looks desolate and forlorn.

October 22- Left the old Home where all the family were born and moved to the new home on the Hill-set up the coal stove and find the new home cheerful, beautiful and comfortable and yet felt sad.

October 31- William Campbell, Mr. & Mrs. A. Campbell, Mr. & Mrs. R. Campbell and young Robert were here to dinner to celebrate Mr. C's birthday. Borrowed \$25 from Azro.

November 5- Robert took 11 barrels of apples to Ainsworth. Great excitement in town about the election of the President. Got the cows up to the Hill farm-need stantions for them-Was entertained seeing the Rockets sent up by the Democrats for Cleveland's election.

November 10- Mr. C, Mrs. L and I went to Belleville to visit Mr. S. Campbell and son Robert.

November 14- The two Marys and I went to our old home and brought clothes and preserves.

November 21- Got some money for 'Life on the Farm' but my literary venture not very profitable. Heard of death of Mrs. Covert.

November 26- Robert and I took Mr. C 20 yearling sheep down to our flock-116 and put them and the calves under the barn-took a sheep for mutton.

Lambie Diary 1884

December 1- Old Mr. Pont came-heard of death of Dr. Webb.

December 11- Went down and feed the sheep-downhearted about the old home where I spent 34 years and wrote sometimes regarding it.

December 15- Robert drew 3 loads of Furniture for Fox who moved into our old home.

December 16- Fed the sheep and found Fox in the room "Where the bairns were born".

Robert brought up a sheep and I dressed it for Mutton.

December 24- Belle and Robert went to the old home and brought up the parlor stove- Anna, Mary and Elizabeth gave me nice presents.
No stockings hung up now.

December 25- Mrs. L, Frank, Anna, Mary, Bell and Robert all went in the Bobsleigh to Augusta-16 years since Father passed away from earth. undergoing that great change that is mysterious, no sound, whisper or shadow ever comes back from our most intimate and best friends to comfort us.

Christmas Box from Sister Agnes.

December 31- Anna not well enough to return to Elkhart.

News from the Archives Office:

I hope everyone had a fine Christmas and are looking forward to a prosperous 1987.

We look forward to a busy year in the Archives, building our Historical records and help people looking up various bits of information. There is a lot of history around this area and I might add very interesting. If anyone has any past history regarding families, house, etc, that would be of interest, feel free to let us know and perhaps we will be able to share it in our future Gleanings.

Again, comes the time for DUES. Please send you check to 220 N. Huron Street, Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me anytime from 9:00 A.M. until 12 Noon, Monday through Friday at 482-4990.

At the Guides Luncheon last June that was held at the Ladies' Literary Club, I had taken my fruit salad in a Glass Bucket(with a wooden handle). If someone has it looking for the owner, it belongs to me. This was a gift from my daughter and I would appreciate getting it back. Call me and I shall be happy to come and pick it up.

Thanks to LaVerne Howard, I have clean windows in my office. He even took off the Cozy Windows and cleaned the insides of them and then replaced them. That is service. And Oh, thanks for the storm door. It makes a big difference. Bless the City Maintenance Department for taking the main door down and fixed it so it opens much easier. The lock works a little stiff but push down real hard and all works well. It makes for a very pleasant, warm office. Dave Gauntlett used to do most of the things around the office but I guess that job goes with the Presidency.

If any one has any City Directories for the years 1982,83,84,85 Or 86, and would care to donate them to the Archives,they would be appreciated.

Billie Zolkosky

HAVE YOU NOTICED THIS MONUMENT?

The statue of an American Soldier at the intersection of Cross and Washtenaw?

It is called "The Hiker" and was erected in honor of the Ypsilanti Boys who served in the Spanish American War 1899. It was dedicated May 18, 1940 during the 41st Reunion of the 31st Michigan Volunteer Infantry which was held in this City. Many members of the 31st Regiment came from here including the following:

Fred Green who had the idea for the Statue,
John B. Kirk, Alec Boutell, Fred Yedley,
William Renton, Everett Wiard, Elmer Warner,
to name a few.

Only one Ypsilanti Boy, Guy Tuttle, died of a Disease in Georgia. The names of all of the Ypsilanti Boys who served in the War are engraved on a Marker on the Statue.

The Sculptor who made the Statue was Mr. Allen G. Newman, a native of New York, and was an Honorary member of the United Spanish War Veterans.

The Statue is opposite the Statue of Demetrius Ypsilanti.

Mr. Ross K. Bower, the Mayor of the City accepted the statue for Ypsilanti

From the January Newsletter from the St. Luke's Episcopal Church, the following historical event has been noted. The Great Bell that once hung from the steeple of the church and now is located in the Memorial Cloister Garth was installed in the steeple in 1837, making it 130 years old. The bell was cast especially for the church which had the tallest spire in the city--reaching a combined height of 120 feet. The spire was removed about 1970 because of the concern over tower stress. Recently architects have recommended that the tower be rebuilt and the bell set to ringing again in the proper spot.

MEMORIALS

The following gifts have been received in memory.

Phoebe Miller \$ 790.00

Foster Fletcher 1000.00
by Peter Fletcher,

Mrs. Grace (Joseph) Thompson \$5000.00
Estate

Mr. Philip Wiggle \$100.00
In memory of Ada Holmes Family

The Ypsilanti Historical Society extends its
sincere gratitude for these gifts.

Acquisitions

Mrs. William J. Hamilton

Mrs. J. Seaman

Miss Hazel Stitt

Mrs. B. Ratliff

From Hattie Smith Estate

Mrs. A. Johnson

Mrs. J. Barr

Mrs. Ellen Thomas

Mrs. James Breaky

Wilfred Brooks

Powder Puff Quilt

Child's Dress c.1898
Baby Dresses c.1892
Nightgown c.1850
3 Aprons c.1850
Black drawstring purse

Box of Miscellaneous
Buttons

Wedding Gown 1916
Children's silk stockings
One child's shoe
pegged leather sole
One toddler's shoe
Black Velvet Muff and
Gloves
Mauve faille silk 2
piece suit c.1880
Cotton batiste blouse
Baby's white batiste
bonnett
Boy's tan leather gloves
Pair toddler's shoes
button closure
Graduation program
U of M, 1913
Little boy's one piece
suit white silk c. 1920
Silk faille baby's coat
Pair of lady's
carriage shoes

Ladie's Hat

Telephone Book 1930

Wooden Pencil Box

Abstract of Clubview
subdivision

2 spindles-Original
Washtenaw County Court
House

Picture of Muskrat Club

From Museum Gift Shop

Thank you for shopping at our Museum Gift Shop. You helped to make the Christmas Season one of our best ever. Remember when you shop with us you are actively supporting your Historical Society.

A special note of appreciation must be given to some members who gave extra time during the busy Christmas season to staff our Gift Shop on week day mornings. Their help is greatly appreciated.

This is Michigan's 150th year! Learn more about Ypsilanti, Michigan.

Read The Story of Ypsilanti by Colburn.
Invest in a small Michigan or a United States flag.

Cup plates commemorating the founding and naming of Ypsilanti as well as other Commemorative China plates depicting scenes of old Ypsilanti can be purchased in our Gift Shop.

Some Reminders to Museum Guides

1. The guide chairman is designated as the person in charge of sales on his/her day. The name of the sales person must be on the sales slip.
2. I.O.U.s are NOT acceptable.
3. No tax is charged.
4. There is no discount ever on Archives material.

Thank you for your participation and cooperation.

Marge Gauntlett, Chairperson,
Gift Shop

A Tribute to Phoebe M. Miller

Phoebe, a friend to, and of, many people in the area died October 28, 1986 at the age of 84. Phoebe began life in Sumpter Township May 17, 1902 and lived in the Ypsilanti area most of her life. She graduated from Ypsilanti High School in 1919, then furthered her education at Michigan State Normal College (Now Eastern Michigan University), graduating in 1921 with a Degree in Physical Education.

After graduation she taught Physical Education in the Jackson, Michigan Schools then returned to Ypsilanti where she taught Physical Education in the Public Schools. In addition she started and supervised an active Summer Playground Program.

Phoebe married Carl L. Miller in 1925 and they ultimately became the parents of two children-Jack and Mar Lou (both of whom still live in Ypsilanti). As the children became active in school Phoebe became involved in PTA activities and other school programs, ultimately being President of the Band Parents, which in turn led to her being instrumental in getting the United States Marine Band to appear in Ypsilanti for a concert to help the Band Parents raise needed funds for the Band.

Phoebe was active in many programs and organizations in the area. She was concerned and involved, always, in the City Government, the DAR, the Thrift Shop, other organizations, and particularly the Historical Museum. She was a Charter Member of the Ypsilanti Historical Society and past President of the Board. In addition she was at different times a member of the Board of Directors of the Historical Society.

She was always dedicated to the Historical Museum, emphatically supporting it and helping to establish, then maintaining, its goals and function. Phoebe worked hard and conscientiously in getting the Ruth Allen Civil War collection for the Museum..

One of Phoebe's great concerns was that the Museum should be available as much as possible, for the use and enjoyment of the Public. This attitude was even more pronounced in regard to making membership in the Historical Society open to everyone that was at all interested in being involved in the Museum and Society activities.

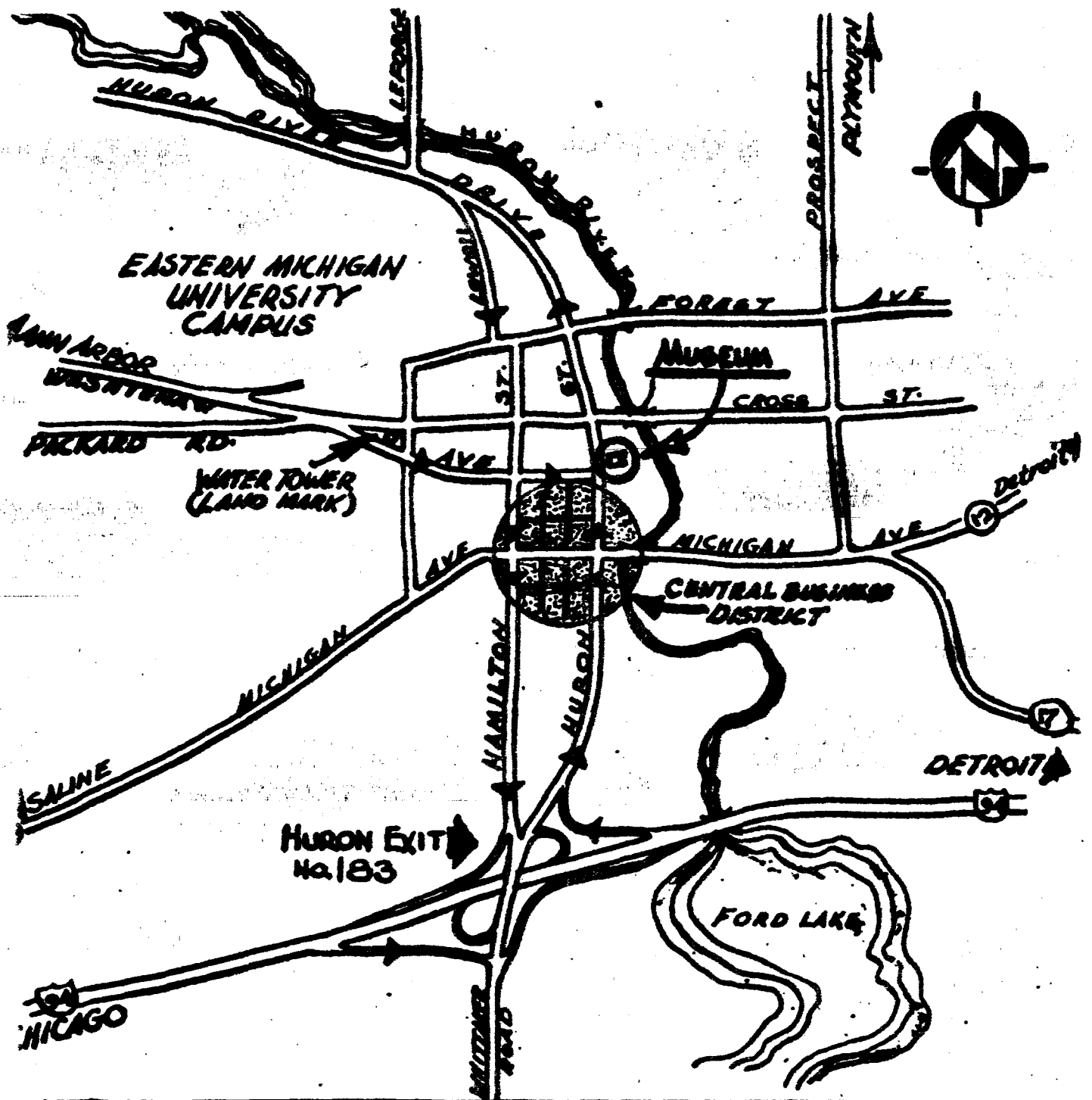
All who have known Phoebe Miller miss her cheerful, positive outlook and approach to life. Her attitude and concerns, particularly regarding the Ypsilanti Historical Museum and the Ypsilanti Historical Society, will be remembered and continue to give inspiration, direction and meaning to our actions.

Our hats off to a TRUE FRIEND AND TERRIFIC LITTLE LADY.

THE YPSILANTI HISTORICAL MUSEUM
INVITES
YOU TO LISTEN TO A PROGRAM OF
ORAL HISTORY
FEBRUARY 15,
SUNDAY
FROM 2:00 - 4:00 P.M.
MISS EILEEN HARRISON WILL CHAIR
THE PROGRAM. BRING A FRIEND,
TOUR THE MUSEUM IF YOU LIKE AND
LISTEN TO TAPES MADE BY
. YPSILANTI NATIVES

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~ Doris Milliman -
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~ Museum Hours ~
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 By Appointment