

YPSILANTI GLEANINGS

PAST SCENES and OLD TIMES

YPSILANTI HISTORICAL SOCIETY ~ PUBLICATION ~

JUNE 1993

No. 77



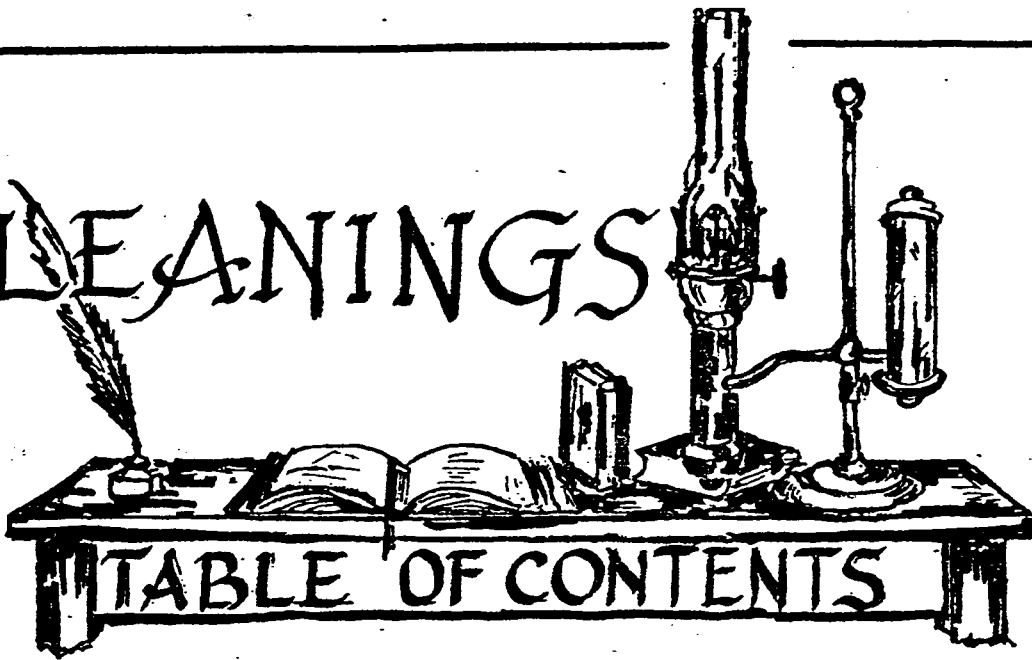
Ypsilanti Historical Museum
~ 220 N. Huron Street ~

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GLEANINGS



June 1993

Presidents' Letter	Robert V. Fink	Page 1
Tribute to Arthur & Deci Howard		Page 2
In Wake of Progress	Doris Milliman	Page 3
100 Years in Ypsilanti	Doris Milliman	Page 4
Lambie Diary	William Lambie	Page 5
Flag Ceremony	D.A.R. Contribution	Page 9
Jacob Thumm Indian Exhibit	Doris Milliman	Page 10
Tribute to Grace Cornish		Page 11
Musings from the Archives	Billie Zolkosky	Page 12
Yard Sale		Page 13
Acquisitions		Page 14

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

The Museum at 220 N. Huron Street, Ypsilanti, Michigan is owned
by the people of the City of Ypsilanti and operated in the public
interest by the Ypsilanti Historical Society, a non-profit group
of public spirited citizens.

May 1993

Dear Members and Friends:

When I wrote to you in February mention was made of some of our needs.

AT this writing I am informed by our City Manager, Mr. Gilsdorf, that the financing for restoration of the front entrance steps has been approved and that the contract will be let for the work. Also the urgently needed repairs to the Museum roof will be made immediately. We certainly appreciate the cooperation we receive.

The rear access ramp which had been recently repaired by replacing broken spindles, is now in need of the same repair, due to vandalism and mischief. Temporary guard rails are now in place. We will continue to try to reach an agreement with the Historical Commission as to what we can do to protect a more attractive solution before spending money to again replace the spindles.

No progress is reported on the Carriage House proposal. Consideration is being given to the paving of the gravel portion of our parking lot. It is expected that this will be done soon.

All are encouraged to use our Museum and Archives.

Some have made suggestions to me for which I am grateful. I solicit input from others. I am grateful for those persons who spend so much time and talent in furtherance of our work.

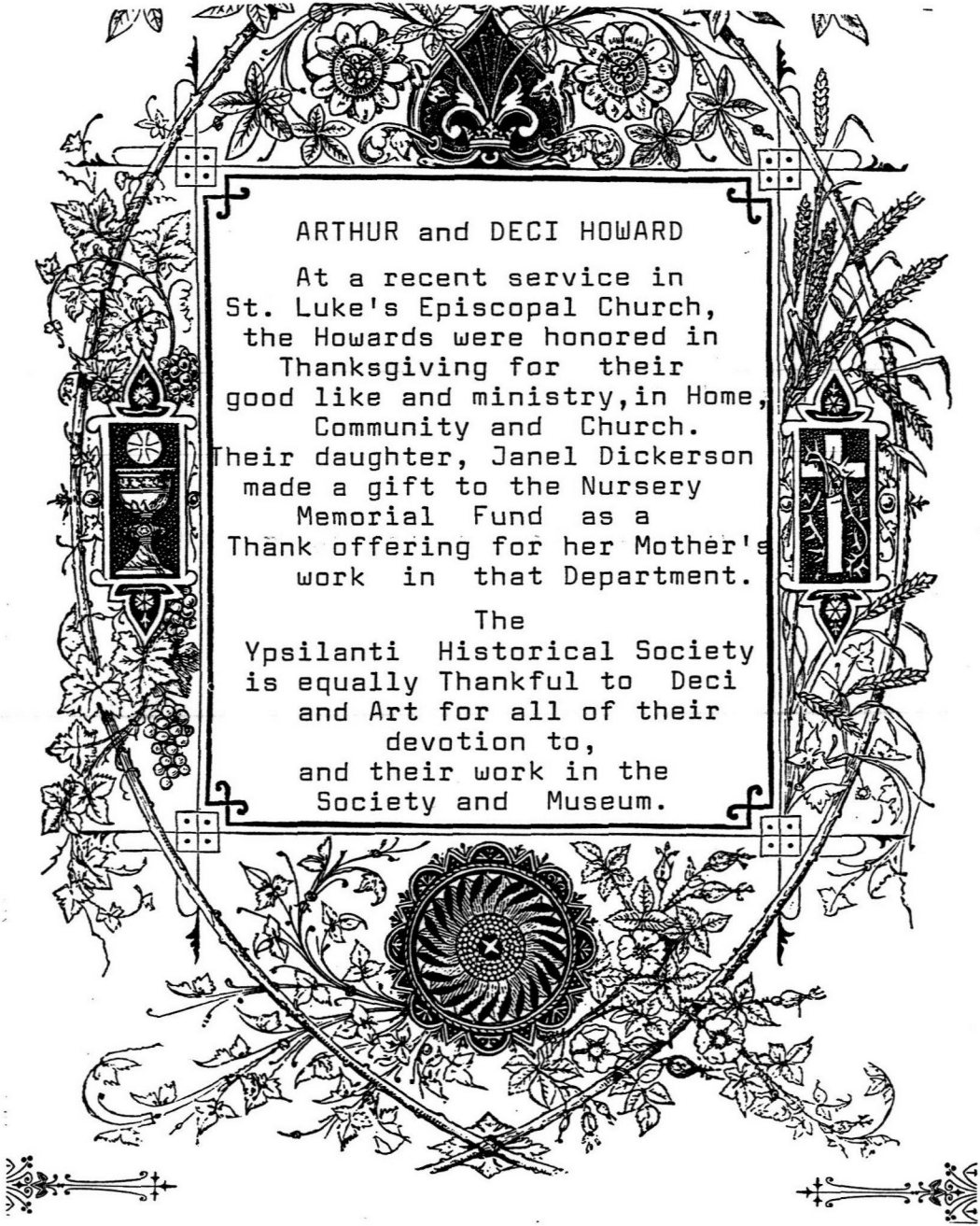
In addition to Billie, we acknowledge the tireless efforts of Doris Milliman, Herb And Grace Cornish, Roger and Lois Katon, Bill Zolkosky, Charles Kettles, Bill Ealy, Marge Gauntlett, Joan Carpenter, Howard Berg, Peter Fletcher and the Museum Guides and others.

Would you like to make suggestions or volunteer? Please call me at 483-7327, or Billie at 482-4990, or write to me at the Museum, 220 N. Huron Street, Ypsilanti, Michigan, 48197.

Thank you for your interest and for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Robert V. Fink, President
Ypsilanti Historical Society



ARTHUR and DECI HOWARD

At a recent service in St. Luke's Episcopal Church, the Howards were honored in Thanksgiving for their good like and ministry, in Home, Community and Church. Their daughter, Janel Dickerson made a gift to the Nursery Memorial Fund as a Thank offering for her Mother's work in that Department.

The Ypsilanti Historical Society is equally Thankful to Deci and Art for all of their devotion to, and their work in the Society and Museum.

"In The Wake of Progress"

Kirk R. Huffaker, a student at Eastern Michigan University compiled this History of One Room Schoolhouses with an emphasis on some of those that once were in Washtenaw County. The architecture of the buildings is discussed and many illustrations are included.

The introduction to the Thesis states as follows:

"Reportedly there are still 21 One Roomers in use by School Districts in the State of Michigan, though American country schools have gone through many changes since the early days, there were many that struggled to survive just as people through the depression, Two World Wars and most of all progress, near the turn of the Century, Progress meant consolidation to the Education community. In turn consolidation meant the abandonment of the beginning of what was to become the largest Public Education System in the World. Unused One Room Schoolhouses became a nuisance in the Wake of Progress".

We welcome this useful information to our archival Collection.

"Unconquered Souls"

A new book in the Archives is this one by A.P. Marshall. It is the History of the African-American in Ypsilanti and contains much information relating to the arrival of the people in the city, how they coped with the situations that developed, and the accomplishments they have made.

Some of the people mentioned in the book are Elijah McCoy, Lee Osler, Rev. Garther Roberson, Dr. Lawrence Perry, John Burton, Thomas and Louise Lane Bass, Charles E. Beatty, Louise Foley and Patsy Chandler. There are many others who have made a contribution to Ypsilanti's History who are also included in the book. A Chapter on the Underground Railroad is a very welcome addition to our material on this popular subject for research. We appreciate the gift of this book by its author.

Unconquered Souls by A.P. Marshall is for sale in the Museum Gift Shop.

WANTED

We would appreciate receiving the following; Ypsilanti City Directories
1990-1991

Wilson- The Story of Willow Run

Doris Milliman

100 Years ago in Ypsilanti

Ypsilantian:

1-19-1893 The Old Bridge on Congress Street(Michigan Avenue) is being taken down. It was erected in 1868. Removal of old Bridge completed Monday, 1-23-1893. New Bridge started 1-25-1893. To be Pratt Truss Bridge erected by Detroit Bridge and Iron Works in charge of W.H. Monroe, Foreman. Floor to top of Center Truss, 25 feet and 2 feet wider than old bridge.

2-20-1893 Common Council accepted new Congress street Bridge.

2-24-1893 Jewelry store of E.L.Hough in building owned by J.B. Wortley on Huron Street burned at 8:30 in evening. Loss \$8,000.00 to Hough.

4-12-1893 Great cyclone struck shortly after 7:00 P.M.

4-14-1893 Furnishings of Follett House(E. Cross at Bridge) sold for \$2,000.00.

4-14-1893 Tornado swept across Dundee Township about 7:00 P.M.

Demolished everything in its path. Entire Village of Rea was wrecked.

One killed, 2 injured, Damage \$100000. Chimney from Glover's Factory disappeared.

7-8-1893 Commercial of this date says "Sidney Rathfon has sold equipment and franchise of Ypsi Horse Car Line to James L. Hill."

George F. Smith sold his $\frac{1}{2}$ interest in "The Ypsilantian" to Wm. M. Osband who continued alone.

8-18-1893 Young Ladies' Improvement Club formed to change Prospect Cemetery to a Park as designed by Mr. Laidlaw, Gardener for Michigan Central Rail Road. Officers of the Club were: Mrs. Fred Palmer, President Mrs. Hull, Secretary, Fred Green, Treasurer.

9-8-1893 Mr. Coe took George C. Smithe in as partner in the Ypsi Commercial as of this date.

9-13-1893 Issue of Ypsi Commercial has description of proposed new Normal Gymnasium and abstract of property.

9-22-1893 F.W. Glaufield is contractor of Gymnasium at \$18,896.

10-10-1893 First issue of the "St. Luke's Register" a monthly paper. First through telephone Service to New York City.

11-24-1893 The Congregational Parsonage was opened to the Public.

Contractors: S.B.Mereness and Ed. Rorison.

William Lambie Dairy - 1899

January

1. New Years Day-Mother, Mary & Belle went to hear a Sermon. Ann & I rested at home-6 above in the sunshine-Frank came at Noon and went home with Bell.
2. Ann & Mary went to Town-12 above zero. Mrs Fletcher & the boys came back from Uncle Williams.
3. Rexford sent over 2 tons of coal-Mrs Fletcher & the boys came back from Uncle Williams.
3. Rexford sent over 2 tons of coal-Mrs Fletcher & the boys & Ann & Mary went to Bells. Anna & Mary stayed overnight-Robert brot a load of wood.
4. Dark, mild and muddy-Mary went home with Frank in the rain- A big Paper from Australia.
5. Frank brot back Mary-frost & cold-Mother, Ann went to Town. Mother & Anna stayed at the Dentists till after dark-Frank brot me new trousers.
6. Franks butter would not come, took home his churn. More snow-Anna, Mary, Mrs Fletcher & 3 boys had supper with Aunt Eunice & came home in the dark. Bell came after dark and Will called for her in the dark at 11.
7. Robert took Anna to the Depot at 9-Cold stormy blasts-Frank came to dinner.
8. Robert came and told us a wee boys came and was born in their home last night, Mrs Fletcher and family & Mary went to Church. Mary walked home and Frank came-the eaves dripped at noon.
9. 20 above zero-Belle came adn Wills sister was dead & Mother & her went home together.
10. Frank came in fornoon-Mary walked over to the grave yard & Wills sisters funeral-Belle came home with her-Will came for bell about bedtime.
11. Insurance meeting-8 above zero-Mary & Mrs Feltcher walked to Town-sent a letter to Anna.
12. Mr & Mrs Couvert made us a good visit-Frank came-Robert brot us a grist-dark day.
13. Rain in the night-dark-mild wet morning. Mary, Mrs Fletcher & the boys went to Town in afternoon.
14. Wet morning-water standing in the Wheat-Mary & Mrs Fletcher went to Town.
15. Mother & Mary went to Church and the boys to Sunday School.
16. Like a Spring morning-Wife & I wnet to Roberts & saw the wee boy over a week ald. Will took 2 boys to his house & Mrs Fletcher went to Town and did not find them till she got hame.
17. Fine morning-Wife & I had a pleasant visit with Belle. Mr & Mrs Frank Fletcher came.
18. Mother & Mary went to Town-We saw over 20 cederwax birds in the Mountain Ash tree. The boys & girls had fun sliding on the ice by the Orchard. Mary had a headach-hens don't lay & roses don't bloom.
20. Robert brot 2 loads of straw from the stack to the barn. Mr & Mrs Hunter & Mr & Mrs Cameron gave us a pleasant call. Mrs Fletcher & 3 boys went with Frank to his farm.
21. Stormy-The wind blew over a brick-killed Mr. Kirk.
22. Mother & Mary went to Church-Mrs Fletcher & boys to the Sunday School.
23. Mother & Mary went to Town then Mother to Bells-Frank came-Mary & Mrs Fletcher walked over to the grave where they were burring the body of Mr. Green.
24. Split wood & tried to draw Haplen Cargo(?).

Lambie Diary - 1899

January

25. Burns Day- Mr. Hunter, his wife & daughter came to see us. Robert brot Oats & corn to feed the hungry hens.
26. Mrs Fletcher & Mary went to Town & came home in a snow storm. Frank took Mary, Mrs Fletcher & the boys to his home at night. Robert walked up to see us after dark.
27. Six above zero-cold-sunshine. Lines on Burns & Whittier.
28. Willie started early-Frank brot the Detroit Journal-6 above zero.
29. 3 above zero here- 10 below at Franks home. Mary, Mrs. Fletcher & the boys walked to Church.
30. Monday-2 above zero-Frank drew a load of hay-Mary hitched up and Mrs Fletcher and the boys went to Roberts.
31. Willie said it was 10 below zero-Wife & I walked to Roberts who was husking corn in the barn. The wee boy looked bright & fell asleep on my knee.

February

1. About zero-split wood-Wife went to Bells with the Milk Man.
2. Mr. Fletcher took Mrs Fletcher and the boys to the farm.
3. Snow in the night-20 above zero-Frank brot papers.
4. Mrs. Fletcher & the boys & Mary went to the City.
5. Cold-Mary walked to Church-Willie & Harris to the Sunday School.
6. Zero-heat 4 below at FRanks-he got a load of hay out the shed.
7. Zero again-Mother walked to Roberts-fed out all the corn-Robert brot corn & a barrel of Oats.
8. Mary says 2 below zero-Mother has a cold and can hardly speak. Mary, Mrs Fletcher & the boys walked to Roberts-very cold-come balmy Spring and cheer sad hearts.
9. Ten below zero-The Milkman says 16-We pray for warmer days-20 below at the Normal-Father killed 2 swine for Robert.
10. 14 below zero-22 at Franks & one of his Cows had a calf in the cold and cruel winter.
11. 10 below zero-Bell walked over to see us. Frank came-some sunshine.
12. Lincoln's Birthday-14 below zero-Mary & Mrs Fletcher & boys walked to Church.
13. Still cold-12 below zero-Frank & Mrs Fletcher set a stove in the Cellar- Harris, Robert & I helped Robert to load Hay.
14. Glad Morning-South wind, Mercury up to 6. Mrs Lambie went with the Milkman & walked to Roberts-The wee boy seemed to laugh on my knee.
15. Grand mild day-eaves dripping-Frank went to the Farmer's Institute at Ann ARbor-Willie got pills from Mr Fraser for me.
16. Sunshine & balmy breezes-Robert brot a laod of corn in the car from the cars for himself and then brot a load to us and put it in barn floor-Frank went to Ann Arbor Institute.
17. Another fine morning-20 above zero-trimed trees.
18. Wife & I had a cheery dinner with Will & Bell yesterday. Wheeled manure out the stable. Mary & Mrs Fletcher drove to Town to read a poem from Mr Golder to Wm Lambie in the Hamilton paper.
19. Willie took Mother & Mary to Church in the Surry.
20. GRand day-wheeled manure out the stable-Mother & I dined with Mr & Mrs Robert Lambie-Mary, Mrs Fletcher & the boys went to Town.
21. Rexfords man brot over 2 ton of coal-Mr Alison sent two Almanacs from Australia- Robert thinks the Walnut trees on the old farm are worth \$50.
22. Washington's Birthday-Mrs Fletcher, Mary & the boys went to Belles-Rain, snow & mud when they came back.

Lambie Diary 1899

February

23. More snow-Mother went with Robert to his home. Robert brot Papers.
24. Sunshine and after snow & rain-Mother went to Bells with Milkman.
25. Mary walked to Town-Wet & Muddy.
26. Willie drove Mother & Mary to Church. Mary went for the Sunday School Scholars- A thunder shower at night.
27. Mother & I walked to Roberts-ice & cold-driving blasts-Robert brot Mother home.
28. Ice & cold blasts-Mary, Mrs Fletcher & 3 boys went to Roberts-Roberts girls went home in the Surry & Mary & Mrs Fletcher came home in it. More Papers from Mr Allison.

March

1. Glad to live safe and well thru the winter and see another pleaaat Spring. Bell and Mrs Lang came-Mother went to Mr. Hiscocks and Bells.
2. Wife took Mary, Mrs Fletcher & 3 boys to the Motor on the way to Uncle Williams. Wife & I called on Aunt Eunice-about the first I have been to Town this fearful cold winter.
3. Wife to see Bell-Mild, dark and damp-Dined alone. got cold reading.
4. Did not rest well, a long night, mild, muddy and damp. Mary came down on the Motor & then walked home in the snow alone.
5. A fearful snow storm-The Milkman thought it the worst storm he had seen & Will had to turn back. The wind broke down the door on Franks shop.
6. Robert drove through the fields & called. Glad to see a friend-Robert, Hattie & the babe went to Hatties Mothers then Robert brot Mrs Fletcher and family here to his own family home.
7. More cold-north drifting blasts and some sunshine wearring for blue skies & balmy breezes-Robert & Hatties drove thru the deep drifts and gave us a pleasant visit.
8. Willie & his Mother drove thru the snow to Town-Mrs Fletcher came back afternoon & her & Mary & boys drove to Roberts & Bells.
9. Mild & Murkey-Mrs Fletcher & 3 boys went in the snow to Mr Hiscocks & met Will & Bell.
10. Mother drove thru the snow to belles coming back after dinner. Mary, Mrs Fletcher & boys went to Town-mild, dark & damp.
11. Willie & Mother went for Bell to celebrate Roberts Birthday. Sunshine and Mud- A grand dinner-3 generations-21 in number round the table.
12. Willie went with Mother & Mary to the nue Chapel. Mary went for Mrs Fletcher & boys. Willie & Mary saw Robins in the Orchard.
13. Mary, Mrs Fletcher & the boys went to see old Mr Fletcher who was better and called on Eunice & her Mother who were earing small apples of Roberts. Eunice has ahd the grip & has not been at Church for weeks.
14. Roads froze-Mrs Fletcher drove to the farm then her & Mary to Roberts-Frank told us Uncle William had bot a house in Town so none would be oppresed boarding hired men.(?)
15. Mild rain & sunshine-Mother drove to Cells-Robert and Hattie came.
17. St. Patricks dAy-Wife & I walked to Roberts & Bell walked back with me. Robert had to go to bed. Mother was tired walking home in the mud. Mary & mrs Fletcher called on the Stevenson family.
16. Mother drove to Roberts then Mrs Fletcher took her to the Motor to see Aunt Mary.
18. Cold icy rain-Willie started for the creamery at daylight. Robert brot us a grist. Cold bleak Sabbath.
19. Mother went to Church & Mary went for Mrs Fletcher & the boys.
20. Robert not well.Mother walked in the North blasts to see him. Sun-shine-Robert had a Dr. Mother was brot up at night.

Lambie Diary 1899

March

21. Cold stormy morning- Come balmy Spring.
22. Mild and Mud-Robert better-Mary, Mrs. Fletcher and the boys went to Belles. Frank called.
23. Thunder last night-colder, ice and sunshine.this morning-Mary, Mrs Fletcher and the boys drove down to Roberts.
24. A robin sung at morn. Mother drove to Belles, when she came back, Mrs Fletcher went to
25. Willie started for the Creamery at daylight & in snow storm.
26. A year since my kind brother Robert died. If a man dies will he live again? I drove threwh the mud to Church for Mrs Fletcher & family.
27. Wife & I had a pleasant time with Will & Bell. Called on Mr Gray coming back. Robert better.
28. Mary & Mrs Fletcher called on Mrs Loveridge.
29. More drifted snow-long winter.
- 30 Wife & I called on Eunice Lambie=did not see them.
31. Wife & I had dinner with Robert and Hattie & had ?. 3 years with peace and good will. Good sister Agnes sent a fine Baby Quilt she made a at hame.

April

1. This morning looks more like January than April.
2. Mary, Mrs Fletcher and the boys walked to Church.
3. Blue & White clouds-Mother drove to Bells.
4. Mrs Fletcher, Mary & the boys drove to Roberts. Enjoyed a Sun bath and rest on the South Porch.
5. Fine Morning, rested in the sunshine.

This is the last of the Lambie Diary. Mrs. Fletcher & the 3 boys that is mentioned was Foster Fletcher's mother and 2 brothers. Peter Fletcher's father.

I have been doing the diary for 9 years now and have enjoyed it very much. It is just as tho I was walking along the time with them.

Mr. Lambie died April 25, 1900 at the age of 79.

FLAG CEREMONY

An American Flag will be presented to the Ypsilanti Historical Society by the Ypsilanti Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The Presentation Ceremony will be on Flag Day, June 14th at 1:00 P.M. at the Museum.

PUBLIC IS INVITED



Welcome Visitors!!

JACOB THUMM INDIAN EXHIBIT

Jacob Thumm was born in Ypsilanti in 1884 and except for short times spent on an acreage he owned near Ashland, Virginia and four years spent in Kansas, his life was spent in Ypsilanti at 312 Ballard Street. He died at Beyer Hospital in April 1965.

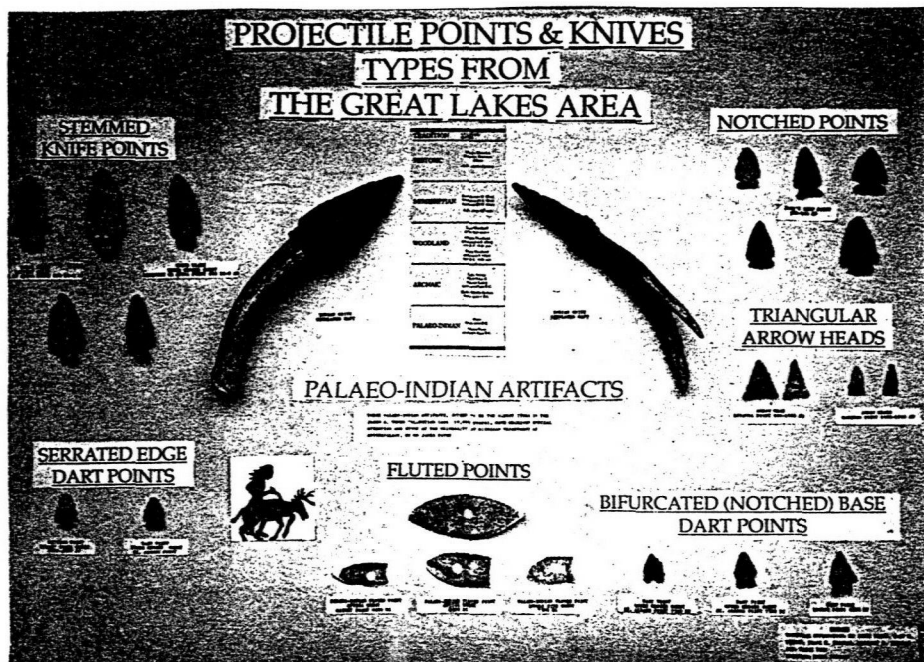
After working at several jobs, he found being a custodian in the Ypsilanti Schools the position that satisfied him the most. One of the former teachers said of Mr. Thumm's work "Jake was the most wonderful custodian we ever had. He worked spontaneously and derived much pleasure from a job well done". Jake (as he was known) retired in 1959.

Throughout his life, Jake's hobby was collecting Indian Artifacts, numbering approximately 600 pieces. Some of these pieces were from his property in Virginia and some from Kansas, but most of them were from Washtenaw County, Michigan. The collection contains pieces from the Paleo Indian era, to the present century. The Anthropology Department of the University of Michigan has, had a special interest in the Paleo Indian pieces that date back to 10,000-8000 B.C.

In keeping with Mr. Thumm's wishes Mrs. Thumm gave this remarkable collection of Indian Artifacts to the Ypsilanti Historical Society in 1966.

Mr & Mrs Frank Freeman of Farmington Hills, Michigan have recently organized and identified the artifacts and have made many illustrations to show how the tools were used. While doing this project, the Freemans consulted authorities at the University of Michigan and at the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry.

The Historical Society is indeed indebted to the Freemans for this wonderful job of organizing, cleaning and identifying our Indian Collection. They have a personal interest in the collection in that Mr. Freeman is a nephew of Mr. Thumm's.





GRACE CORNISH

We congratulate Grace Cornish upon receiving an Honorary Life Membership Certificate in the Presbyterian Women U.S.A. This certificate was given in recognition of the many years of

work with the Presbyterian Women of Ypsilanti by the Presbyterian Women of Detroit. Miss Normajean Anderson presented the Certificate and a Pin during the Service in the Presbyterian Church Sunday, May 16, 1993.



Musings from the Archives.

I do believe we are about to enjoy some warm weather. Silla, Tulips and Daffodils are gone now, (they were beautiful) so now hopefully we will have summer. Portuclaca (Rose Moss) has been planted out front of the Museum on the extension. Special Thanks to Girl Scout Troop #974 of Chappelle School for coming down and helping us on Wednesday night to plant

We would like to put in a Rose Garden in the space near the South door to the Archives entrance. If you have a favorite rose bush you would like to donate, we would be happy to take care of it. My donation will be a 'Brig O' Doon Rose. Just give us a call, if not at the office, at home 482-8443.

Thank you Roger & Lois Katon for keeping our grass so nice, cutting & trimming. It looks great, gets better every year.

DON'T FORGET the Treasure Sale, June 5th, 8:30 to 2:30 P.M. at the Museum. We could use a few more items. If you need to have anything picked up, please call the office.

The Office has been very busy, a bit more than usual for what reason I'm not sure. Doris has been very busy with a lot of research not only with visitors but mail also.

Ellen Gould passed away March 2nd. She had attended the Valentine Party, February 14th and as always enjoyed herself. She was very proud of the many valentines she had received over the years and had given them to the Museum. She always came and visited especially during the time the Valentines were on display. She was 101 years of age. We treasured her visits and many memories of her school reminiscences. She was a very pleasant person to be with. We will indeed miss her.

When someone passes away we lose a lot of history. So if you have a grandparent, parents, sister, brother, relative or friend be sure and talk with them, you may learn something of the past that you could in turn pass on to someone else in years to come.

History: Past events, those connected with person
or thing, an interesting or eventful past.
Study of past events, especially of human
affairs.

Hopefully our new gutters will be installed this week. Our roof has been repaired so as soon as my office gets painted I shall be able to get the office straightened around (again).

Radio station WAAM and Cleary College are sponsoring a Dinner-Dance on June 26th at Cleary College. Buffet dinner will be 5:30 to 6:30 and dancing from 7-11:00 p.m., with Music by a LIVE BAND. Why not get a group together and come out and enjoy some ballroom dancing. Tickets are only \$10.00 or \$20.00 for a couple. You may call WAAM at 971-1600 for tickets or Lyle Horn at 485-7749. We look forward to seeing you there.

Bill Ealy reminds us if we have not paid our dues yet, please do so, it will save us time in billing you and a .29¢ stamp.

Billie

Acquisitions

Books, Cards, Lamp, clothing and Misc items from
estate of Ellen Gould

Picture- Prospect School -1914 Mrs. R. Densel

Picture- Spencer School Mrs. Willis

Replica of Tucker Automobile and Autograph picture
of large poster advertising Movie 'Tucker' by grand-
son of Preston Tucker, John C. Tucker.
given by Paul Ungrot, Jr.

Darning Eggs and Misc clippings- Normajean Anderson

YPSILANTI HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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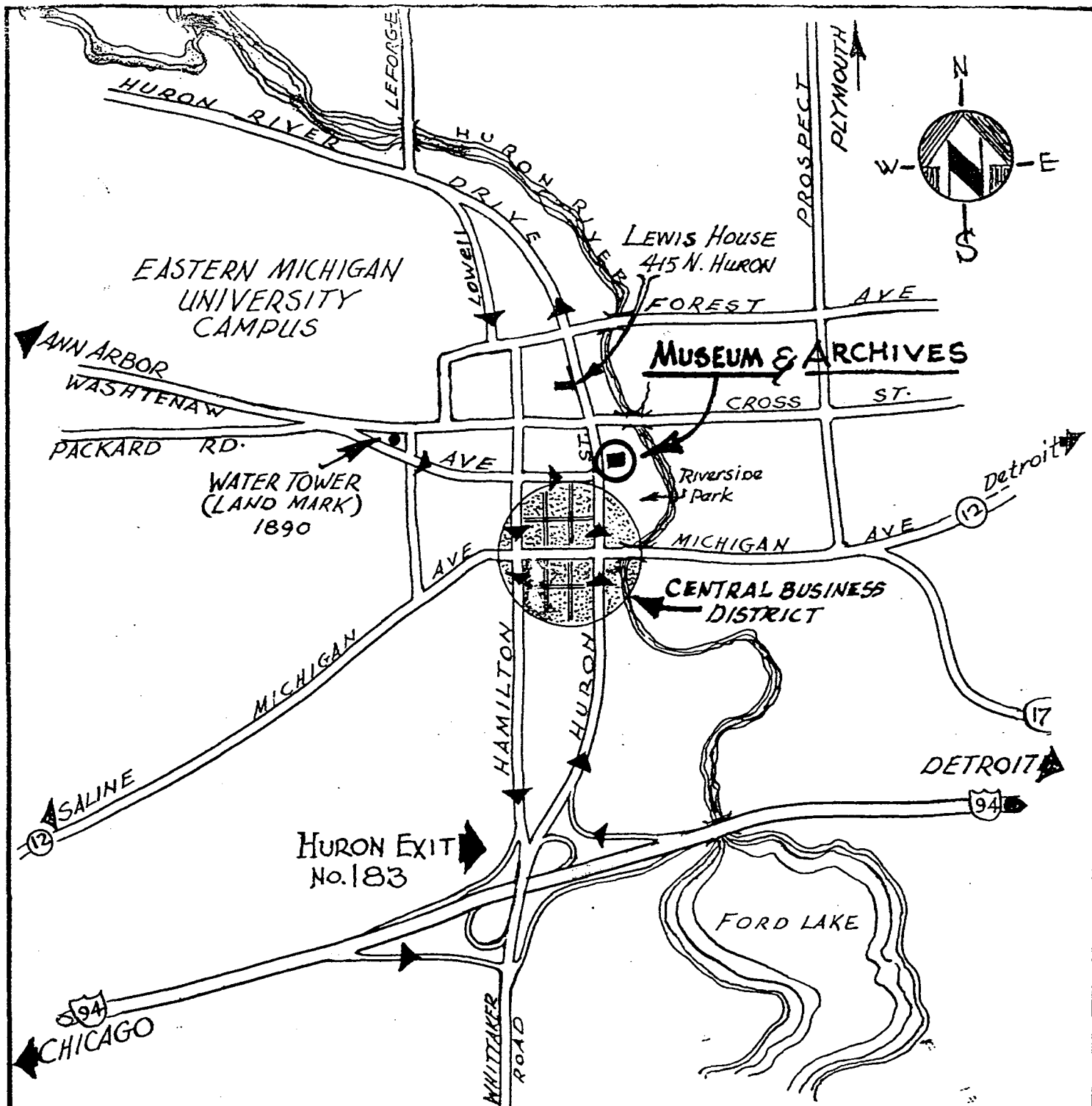
Kathryn Howard 730 Cliffs	Publicity 482-7081
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Mary Kerr	Chamber of Commerce	482-4920
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Administration Committee

Doris Milliman	Grace Cornish	Betty Kerr
Marjorie Gauntlett	Eileen Harrison	Ann McCarthy
Billie Wardell	Kathryn Howard	Virginia Davis
	Joan Carpenter	

The Museum at 220 N. Huron Street, Ypsilanti, Michigan is owned by the people of the City of Ypsilanti and operated in the public interest of the Ypsilanti Historical Society, a non-profit group of public spirited volunteers.



Upsilanti Historical Museum

220 N. Huron St.

Upsilanti Michigan 48197 - Phone 313 - 482-4990

Doris Milliman-City Historian
Billie Zolkosky-Archivist

Museum Hours: Thur-Sat & Sun 2-4 P.M.

Archives: Mon-Fri 9-12 Noon