

Ypsilanti GLEANINGS

Official publication of the Ypsilanti Historical Society, featuring articles
and reminiscences of the people and places in the Ypsilanti area



SUMMER 2013



The Gilbert home at the corner of Grove and High Streets.

The Gilbert Family—Part II

BY JANICE ANSCHEUTZ

Our story of the Gilbert family – of fortunes won and fortunes lost – of dreams that turned to nightmares – continues after the death of Major John Gilbert, who died at the age of 86 years on January 19, 1860 at his modest brick home at 301 North Grove Street.

As the tale was told in Part I of The Gilbert Family Saga, published in the Spring, 2013 Issue of The Gleanings, Major John Gilbert, for all of his hard work, determination and skills, lost his fortune in a bank fraud, and was being supported by his two sons, George and John Jr. from the mid 1840s until his death in 1860.

This is the story of his son, John Gilbert, Jr., and how he regained the family's

wealth and status. It also relates to the legacy his family left to the city of Ypsilanti. John Jacob Gilbert Jr. was born in Manlius, Onondaga County, New York on January 6, 1820. As a young lad of 11 years old he traveled with his family to Ypsilanti, Michigan from New York State. Though not college educated, John was able to glean many skills from his father, which included expertise in mill building and operations, buying and selling grain and grain products, town planning and development, train operations, and manufacturing of metal products.

By the time he was eighteen years old, John was manager of a store next to his father's flour mill on the Huron River at the Chicago Road (now Michigan Ave.) and Water Street, which provided

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From the PRESIDENT'S DESK

BY ALVIN E. RUDISILL

We are certainly going to miss our friend and supporter Tom Dodd who passed away on Sunday, May 12, 2013. Tom was in the middle of the design and layout of this issue of the *Gleanings* as well as many other volunteer projects. There is an article about the life of Tom Dodd in this issue and there will undoubtedly be several programs scheduled throughout the community in celebration of his life.

The Quarterly Membership Meeting of the Society was held on Sunday, May 19. The program was titled "Gals with Gumption" and was presented by our new Intern, Melanie Parker. The program focused on a number of women that were prominent in the historical development of Ypsilanti. The program featured an on-line Internet program that was developed by Melanie and other students enrolled in the Graduate Program in Historical Preservation at EMU. A link to the program is located on the right side of the home page on the YHS web site. Thanks to Melanie, and the others in her group, for adding to the information available about prominent individuals in our city's history.

Another feature of the Quarterly Membership Meeting was the presentation of the Gerald Jennings Service Award to Karen and Bill Nickels. The award was established in 2012 by the Board of Trustees of the Ypsilanti Historical Society to honor individuals who have dedicated a significant amount of their time and talents to Society programs, activities and projects. Karen and Bill Nickels were chosen for their many years of service to the Society in a wide variety of positions and roles. Their names have been added to the plaque that hangs in the front hallway of the Museum. Kathryn Howard and Virginia Davis-Brown were the first recipients of the award.

If you are not currently on our email listserv please call the Museum at 734-482-4990 and have your name added. We are using the listserv only for program notifications. Your email address will not be shared with others. Also, please check the Event Schedule on our web site and in this issue of the *Gleanings* for upcoming special programs and displays.

We are looking for volunteers as docents for the Museum or research assistants for the Archives. Both the Museum and Archives are open from 2:00 to 5:00 pm Tuesday through Sunday. If you are available during that time and are interested in helping us preserve the historical information and artifacts of the area, or in educating the general public about our history, please give me a call at 734-476-6658.



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The Ypsilanti Historical Museum is a museum of local history which is presented as an 1860 home. The Museum and Fletcher-White Archives are organized and operated by the Ypsilanti Historical Society. We are all volunteers and our membership is open to everyone, including non-city residents.

For information about upcoming Society events, visit us online

www.ypsilantihistoricalsociety.org

Archives | Collections | Donations | Event Schedule | Membership | Publications | Volunteer

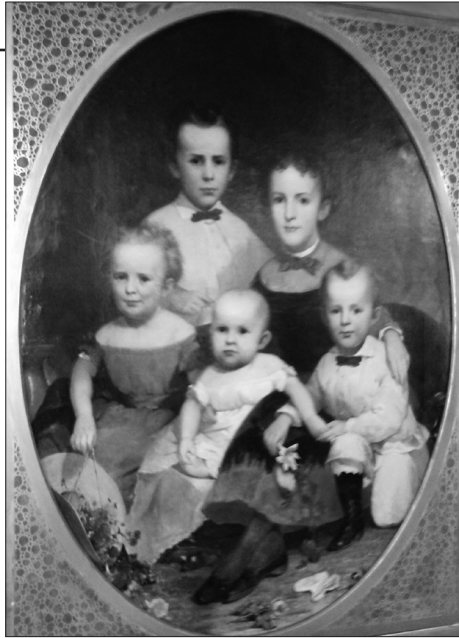
not only various goods to citizens living nearby, but supplies to those building the new Detroit to Chicago line of the railroad. By 1840, due to poor investing, this once wealthy family lost the mill and the majority of their land and business holdings, and John, Jr. and his brother supported their parents, their sister Emily, and Emily's daughter.

We know that John enlisted in the Ypsilanti Guards of the 6th Regiment of the Militia of Michigan and in May, 1844 was elected Captain, and received his commission from Governor John S. Barry. He left Ypsilanti in 1846 and moved to Detroit. In a memorial report of the "Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society Collections," published in 1896, we learn that like his father, John Jr. became a Mason, and in January, 1851 was one of the founding members of Detroit Commandery [sic] No. 1.

We also know that in 1851 he was employed as a conductor for the railroad that went through Ypsilanti from Detroit. In his obituary, it is written that John saw the first train pass over the line from Detroit to Ypsilanti. He was conductor on the train in 1851 when some of the unscrupulous officials who built that line were carried back to Detroit for trial. At that time, John Jr. was employed on the section that ran from Detroit to Jackson.

The year 1857 was an important one for John. His leadership ability was recognized by fellow Masons when he was elected in Detroit as the First Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery [sic] of the State of Michigan. It was also the year that John moved to Chicago and with James Bailey as his partner, started a commission business called John Gilbert and Company. The business was involved in buying and selling grains and most likely John's earlier experience, both working at the mill his father owned and selling flour and supplies, provided him with the education he needed to succeed.

Another milestone in the year 1857 is that John came back to Ypsilanti in order to marry Harriet Amelia Heartt on November 11, 1857. The service was conducted in St. Luke's Episcopal Church by Reverend John A. Wilson. In her obituary, we learn that Harriet was born in Troy, New York on May 26, 1830. Her parents were William and Elvya W. Dunn Heartt. When she was 15 years old, her father,



The Gilbert children, painted about 1870. The painting was found in a barn on the Swift property. Back row - left to right: John Thomas (1863-70) and Alice Haskins (1860-1946). Front row - left to right: Harriet (1867-1888), Margaret (1870-1904) and William Heartt (1865-1933).

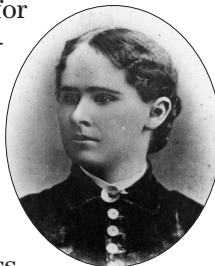
who had been a river boat captain on the Hudson River, brought his family to Ypsilanti. They lived on a farm a short distance from the city. John brought his young bride to Chicago and they remained there for three years. We can assume that this business was successful because by 1860, John and Harriet returned to Ypsilanti and a year later moved into the elegant and stylish 13-room mansion they had built at 227 North Grove Road.

On September 3, 1859 Harriet gave birth to a baby boy who died the same day. On December 2, 1860 a daughter, Alice Haskins, was born in Ypsilanti. On May 30, 1863, another son, John Thomas, was born followed by his brother William Heartt born May 17, 1865. Finally, two daughters followed: Harriet Eli-

za, born February 25, 1867 and Margaret Edmunds, born January 15, 1870. The beautiful oil painting of their five children which was once proudly displayed in the happy home, now hangs in the Gilbert Residence on South Huron Street, found abandoned in what was once the Swift family barn on the property in 1963.

The young family prospered in their elegant home which was noted for its flowered mansard roof, the first of this style of short, steep roofline in Ypsilanti. We can imagine the grandeur of the home by the descriptions provided in Colburns "The Story of Ypsilanti" added to by Ilyne Sari, who lived across the street and as a child often played there. There were five chimneys in the house which was surrounded by four porches covered by flowering vines. The slate roof was patterned with a flower motif. After entering the mansion through heavy front doors there was a mosaic patterned tile floor in a broad hall with a curving staircase. Most rooms had a fireplace, oak floors and decorative plaster.

The grounds themselves were fabulous - more like a park than the lawn of a family home. The large seven-acre lot, surrounded by High, Grove and Park Streets was deeded to John by his father, Major John Gilbert, before the family's financial collapse. In a newspaper article from the Ypsilanti Daily Press, August 10, 1961, some of the features of the landscaping were described. There was an ample playground with a teeter-totter and swings, enjoyed not only by the five Gilbert children, but other children who were welcome to play there. Flowers, especially roses and lilies, were planted everywhere, and flowering vines cooled the ample porches. In the winter, spring and



Harriet Gilbert was known as "Hattie."



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fall, flowers were always in bloom in the greenhouse which was built onto the building, and Mrs. Gilbert was generous in providing these for church displays, weddings, funerals and other events.

As daughter Margaret got older, she taught painting to neighborhood children under the towering pine trees on the property either on Saturdays or during her summers off from teaching art in the city schools. The article goes on to describe the hospitality of the family in welcoming others into their beautiful home. "Mr. Gilbert always made a big thing of the Fourth of July and took all the children of the neighborhood to the top of the tower at the rear of the house to watch fireworks 'uptown' at night. Evenings as a rule found the children of the area playing Hide and Seek. In the wintertime the place was still the center of attraction with an artificial lake providing safe skating. The lake had its beginning when the Michigan Central Railroad track was built. Soil was scooped out in quantity and the hole eventually became a small lake fed by streams which also provided water for a swimming pool nearer the house. A splashing fountain south of the residence provided an attractive water feature of those days."

Another water feature was a clear pool near the back door of the home which was spring fed and provided delicious cool drinking water for the family and visitors. Major John Gilbert not only brought his family from New York State but brought with him four pear trees which his son used to begin a little orchard near a vineyard and vegetable garden on the property. Small boats were available for fun in the little lake, and a stable on the property provided further diversion to children visiting the home.

Mrs. Gilbert was considered a gener-



Alice Gilbert cavorts near the pond.

ous and kind woman and was one of the founders of The Home Association which provided for the needs of the poor in Ypsilanti. Colburn tells us more about the purpose of this charity, which was founded in 1857 to help only three families. By 1907 the numbers of those assisted had risen to an average of 81 each year. "A wife and child abandoned and helpless... within a day were discovered, clothed, comforted and provided with railway tickets to the distant home of a relative. Necessary surgical operations were provided for the poor. Modest pensions were given some aged and suffering people." Before the city was persuaded to provide wood for the poor, stacks of it would be piled in members' yards to be distributed as needed.

Harriet was also an active member of St. Luke's parish and their charity work. In the Ypsilanti Commercial newspaper of June 22, 1878, we get a glimpse of the hospitality of the Gilbert home in an article that stated: "An immensely pleasant festival and lawn party was given by the 'Ladies Aid Society' of St. Luke's Church at the residence of Mrs. John Gilbert on Friday evening of last week. The spacious and elegant grounds were enjoyed by all present and as an additional attraction several boats plowed the waters of the beautiful artificial lake. In a financial way, the social was also a success, a gain of about thirty dollars being the result."

It is said that passengers on the train of which John Gilbert, Jr. was con-

ductor would gasp with awe while passing his beautiful home and ask him what that wonderful building was, and he would say, in jest, that it was the Gilbert Insane Asylum. It seems strange to think that the builder and owner of this magnificent mansion merely worked for the railroad, but he had other sources of income as well. Once, when asked by a census taker, what his occupation was, he stated that he was a Capitalist.

In Colburn's book, John Gilbert Jr. is credited as "contributing much to the development of the East Side. He built stores on the north side of East Cross Street and the factory building on Grove Street, later owned by the National Foundry Company, and was interested in many early industries. His home on Grove Street was long one of the city's beauty spots. Mrs. Gilbert, his wife, is well known in The Story of Ypsilanti as President, for years, of The Home Association. The Gilbert Home is the fine old mansion at the corner of Grove and High Streets, with its extensive gardens covering the block and surrounded by a high wall."

In the City Directory of 1873 John's profession is given as a manufacturer of milk and cheese safes, probably produced in his factory on Grove Street. These were metal containers which could be cooled with ice or placed in a well or spring that would keep these dairy items fresh, the precursor to the ice box.

It is possible that he also planned to manufacture one of his inventions – a self-locking coffin, which he had patented in 1876. In his patent application, he provides us with this description: "My invention has for its object to so construct a metallic coffin that when a corpse is placed therein [sic] and the lid is closed down, the coffin cannot be again opened... it consists in providing the coffin lid



Gilbert Park, the site of the 1923 Centennial Celebration, Arlan's Department Store, a Giant Flea Market, and currently the Water Street Project.

with internal self-acting fastening – hooks, which will lock the lid to the coffin when placed in position." At that time, The University of Michigan and other medical schools provided a "cottage industry" of sorts for unscrupulous people who would search various cemeteries for fresh graves from which bodies would be dug up and supplied, at a good price, for students to dissect and study. They were called "resurrections." It was not uncommon for families of the newly buried to camp out at the cemetery and guard the grave for several weeks until it was certain that enough decomposition had taken place in the corpse to make the body worthless to medical schools.

Not only was this imaginative and energetic man involved in making money, but he was active in local and state affairs as well. We read in his obituary that he was a "staunch Democrat and in 1863 was elected supervisor of his district, continuing to serve until 1868. In 1865 he became a member of the executive committee of the Michigan State Agricultural Society and remained on the board for 12 years, acting as chairman of the business committee for a large portion of the time."

After a long life filled with challenges met, John Gilbert Jr. had become a rich man in his own right. He died in his beautiful home on September 14, 1894. We learn more about his last few years in his obituary: "By an unfortunate accident Mr. Gilbert lost an eye, after having had a successful

operation upon it for cataract, and it not only deprived him of his sight, but wrecked his nervous system almost completely, so that for over two years his life had been one of suffering. He had lately been looking forward to a more successful result of an operation upon his remaining eye and was even daring to anticipate meeting some of his old friends at the coming

State Fair. But it was not to be, and a short but severe illness proved too much for his weakened system and he passed peacefully away from the sorrow and suffering of this life to the joys of the better land." Copying the closing words of his father's obituary we may say of him:

"Mr. Gilbert has gone down to the grave leaving to his children the heritage of a stainless name." John Gilbert, Jr. joined his father and his beloved son, John Thomas, to lie in rest at nearby Highland Cemetery in the family plot in Block 45.

Even though John and his wife, Harriet Amelia Heartt Gilbert, had six children, only two outlived their mother, who died at her home on October 6, 1910. Their infant son died on the day of his birth in 1859. Sadly, while the oil painting of the five Gilbert children was being painted, John Thomas, who was only 7 years old, died in 1870. In 1888, their daughter, Harriet Elvya, died at the age of 21. Daughter, Margaret Edmunds, who had worked as an art teacher in Ypsilanti, married lawyer Charles Taylor of Chester, Pennsylvania, and died on September 8, 1905 in childbirth with twins. Her body was brought back to Ypsilanti from Pennsylvania to be buried in the family plot at Highland Cemetery, and the twin babies came to live with their grandmother and Aunt Alice in the Gilbert family mansion. Love and tender care could not save them and they died before they were 11 months old and were buried with their mother.

THE ROCKET 

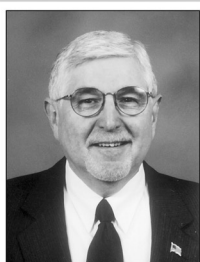
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The remaining children, William Heartt Gilbert and Alice Gilbert, lasted long after their mother's death, and were alive when the City of Ypsilanti honored their family with the naming of Gilbert Park. This small plot of land, which was at the corner of Michigan Avenue and Park Street, was actually one of two Gilbert Park's in the city. Another park, which stood between Huron and Washington Streets, was a gift of land to the city made by Kate Gilbert in her will. She is no relation to the John Gilbert family and was a teacher in Ypsilanti. Her husband died from wounds suffered in the Civil War and Mrs. Gilbert bestowed this land to the city. It had ceased being a park shortly before 1923.

Most likely Gilbert Park was formed sometime after the park system of Ypsilanti began in 1892. In the early development of Ypsilanti, in the 1830s, this land was undeveloped because it was what we would call wetlands today – marshy and muddy. It had also been part of a large Indian campground where tribes would stop on their sojourn to Canada each year to camp on the river bank. This is described in the previous article on the Gilbert family. During the Civil War, it was used as a town green where new recruits would learn to march in formation and was considered part of the city commons. It had also been used as a market square and wood lot.

Gilbert Park was a pleasant few acres and served as the staging point for the 100th birthday of Ypsilanti which was celebrated in 1923. There was a traditional band stand, drinking fountain, and play areas for children as well as picnic tables and benches, trees and shade. In 1961 the original 2.3 acre park land was traded by the city for a similar sized lot on the river by a developer who built a small shopping center. The new facility was also developed as a park with ball fields, a children's play-



The Swift house, from about 1930, was purchased with funds from the estates of William and Alice Gilbert and was torn down when the current Gilbert Residence was built on the lot. The Swift house was surrounded by gardens and trees and the original owner became one of the first residents of the then-called Gilbert Old Peoples' Home.

ground, picnic tables and benches.

William Heartt Gilbert, the surviving son of John Jr. and Harriet, married Mary Winsor Silver on November 8, 1905 in Church of the Covenant, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and they moved to Battle Creek, Michigan where he was employed by the Michigan Trust Company. He was also a realtor and it seems was able to accumulate his own wealth. They had no children. He died in 1933 and his wife died a short time latter.

Alice lived in the Gilbert mansion until 1920 when she sold it and moved to a large home at 314 West Forest. Daniel Smith, who made the heaters which were installed in Detroit street cars, purchased the property and had the swimming pool cemented over. By that time, the small lake and pool on the property had been destroyed by a city water project which redirected the springs that had supplied water for them. The City of Ypsilanti came into possession of the home and grounds for non-payment of taxes during the Great Depression, after Mr. Smith's death. It was first used as a community center, then a canteen during World War II, and in 1961 became home to the Boys Club. When a new building for the Boys Club was built on the spacious property in 1974, it became briefly a Girls Club, until the girls joined the boys in the newer structure. By 1982, the once beautiful home had become quite dilapidated and city voters were given the opportunity to decide its fate. The building was eventually sold for \$1 and has now been

restored to much of its former glory, and people are again living in its luxury apartments.

Alice continued in the activities which she had been involved in with her mother, most of them devoted to the benefit of the needy. She died on December 16, 1946, just past her 86th birthday. In a scrap of paper found in the archives, there is a typewritten few sentences which must have been delivered to an audience of some sort. It states: "It is with real sorrow that I note the passing of Miss Alice Haskins Gilbert, a very estimable and kindly lady. The Gilbert family has been prominent in Ypsilanti affairs for over a century and she was a worthy member of that family. She was a veritable well of information on early Ypsilanti. I understand that her last act was to feed her friends, the birds, in her doorway."

Her obituary tells us more about Alice's life of service. Like her mother, Harriet, before her, she was active in the Ypsilanti Home Association which provided assistance to the poor of Ypsilanti in terms of food, clothing, housing, heating fuel, and medical care. Help was given in a way that retained the dignity of the recipient. Both Alice and her mother were particularly concerned about the many needs of the elderly in Ypsilanti, many of them having to live in poverty without a source of income.

She was very active in the activities of St. Luke's Church and its auxiliary Guild. Her published obituary from an Ypsilanti newspaper stated "she herself carried on when all her family passed away and her liberality and kindness were notable. For years she entertained the Home Association at its first fall meeting, and was devoted to St. Luke's Church and its Auxiliary Guild. Her kindness and liberality often helped young people."

Not only was Alice concerned about the less fortunate in Ypsilanti during her life, but in her death too, and her good deeds continue to aid others and

are evident today – nearly 70 years after her death. In a newspaper article of December 28, 1946, the will of Miss Gilbert is published. The report reads: "Known in Ypsilanti for kindness and generosity during her long life, it appears the late Miss Gilbert chartered a similar course after her death." In her will, nearly 70 persons and organizations were listed as dividing her personal estate, which is estimated at \$250,000... "Benefiting most from the bequests were the Gilbert Old Peoples Home, Beyer Memorial Hospital and St. Luke's Episcopal Church. A \$500,000 trust fund for the establishment of a home for the aged in Ypsilanti was set aside by the will of William H. Gilbert, brother, who died in 1933. The fund was to be available upon the death of Miss Gilbert, last remaining sister. Miss Gilbert augmented this fund by leaving one half of her estate's financial residue...and the balance of her personal property after all other provisions in the document have been met...to the Gilbert Home."

It was the wish of Alice and William that this fund – an enormous amount of money to have survived the Great Depression - would be a way to honor their family and especially the work of their kind and devoted mother, Harriett, and continue the unending crusade to aid the poor and elderly in Ypsilanti. In a paper entitled "History of the Gilbert Residence", we read "Mr. William Gilbert wished to honor his mother who had been active in the Ypsilanti Home Association." In his will, he pledged half of his estate to fund and start a home for impoverished men and women unable to maintain themselves. During the 1930's through the 1950's, the group functioned as a foundation, using proceeds from investments as direct support for local seniors. Initially, in accordance with Mr. Gilbert's will, the group was called the Gilbert Old Peoples Home of Ypsilanti. The mission was "to found, endow, and maintain a home for the care and support of such aged and impoverished men and women as may be unable to maintain themselves." In an undated newspaper article, prob-

ably from the late 1950s, we read that the trust fund had increased past the quarter million dollar mark while still serving the poor. "Through valuable aid of the Ministerial Association of Ypsilanti, trustees of the Gilbert fund have been able to bring relief to highly deserving senior residents of the community. Recommendations are made after careful investigation and financial aid that would not otherwise have been available has lightened closing years for some who are no longer living as well as for those who are still active but in need of help."

In the late 1950's, the board of trustees of the Gilbert Old Peoples Home of Ypsilanti made the decision to purchase the beautiful Swift Home at 203 South Huron Street from the elderly owner, Miss Harriet Swift, who would be able to continue to live in the large home. It was turned into an "old people's home." The first residents were required to be able to walk and served as a retirement community, rather than a nursing facility, but as people living there grew older and had health issues to deal with, the board of trustees determined that a more suitable one-story building was needed.

In 1959, the Swift home was demolished, and a new Gilbert Residence was built in its place. In 1972, part of this new structure was converted to a nursing home facility to meet the needs of the residents and today expansion is under way to enlarge and expand the care for the residents of Ypsilanti.

The Gilbert Family, who came to the wilderness of Ypsilanti in the cold and bleak winter of 1831, was not only instrumental in helping to build a town, but their legacy is still working today through the Gilbert Residence in providing an exceptional quality of life to the old and infirm of the area.

(Janice Anscheutz is a long-time member of the Ypsilanti Historical Society and a regular contributor to the Gleanings.)

Gilbert House Boys Club Memories from the 1970s

BY ROBERT AND ERIC ANSCHUETZ

When twins Robert and Eric Anschuetz were in the 4th or 5th grade in the mid-1970's, their mother went back to work. Since she could no longer be home when the boys returned from school, it was decided they should go directly from school to the Ypsilanti Boys Club, where they could join with other boys in wholesome, supervised activities.

The Boys Club was located in what was once the family residence of businessman John Gilbert, Jr., and was only a short walk from the Adams Elementary School at Prospect and Forest, which the boys attended. The building, now an apartment house, has since been restored to the original beauty of the Gilbert House, but in the 1970's it was in need of repair and tarnished by peeling white paint and rotting trim. If it hadn't been used by the Boys Club, it might well have been at risk of condemnation. But, being three stories tall with an attic and a basement, it was plenty large enough to host a variety of activities for Ypsilanti boys.

There were certainly great things to do for pre-teen boys like Robert and Eric. In the basement was a large wood shop. It offered an abundance of free wood for building things, and power tools were available to use under adult supervision. To this day, the twins remember vividly the smell of sawdust that greeted them on opening the door to the basement. They recall getting involved in many projects, but not specifically what they entailed or whether any of the pieces they created were ever displayed in their own house. The only item they distinctly remember building was a wooden boat that had a paddle that spun around on a rubber band.

The attic of the Boys Club held a world-class slot car track that was only made available on the weekend for races. The track was large and had many overpasses and underpasses. The slot cars themselves were also untypically large. Robert and Eric would watch mesmerized as the cars raced around the track lap after lap. Their enthusiasm for slot cars soon became evident to their parents, and on



The refurbished Gilbert House, which once hosted the Boys Club that Robert and Eric frequented and now serves as a stylish apartment house.

one Christmas or birthday they received their own set of cars and tracks. After plenty of practice at home to master their racing skills, they decided to take the cars from the set and race them on the big track at the Boys Club. Unfortunately, the cars in their own set were smaller than the ones normally used on the Boys Club track. In competition, they were both hard to control and easily overpowered by the larger cars.

The main activity at the Boys Club was pool, which was played on the numerous billiard and bumper-pool tables found in almost every room of the spacious Gilbert House. By much practice in their frequent visits to the Boys Club, and by carefully observing the techniques of other boys, the Anschuetz twins eventually became quite skilled at pool. One of their opponents with whom they played a lot was a young pool hustler named Stewart - a legend at bumper pool. Once Robert and Eric watched him "run the table" to win a game. He sank five straight balls right at the start by banking them all off of the wall and into the pocket at the other end of the table. With that kind of inspiration, the twins would spend hours playing bumper pool, 8-ball, 9-ball, and "rotation." Staying refreshed for this frantic activity wasn't an issue. Each room in the Gilbert House also had an accompanying pop machine! It was at the Boys Club, in fact, that Robert and Eric fell in love with Fanta pop.

One year, the twins joined a basketball league at the Boys Club. Eric was on the Trail Blazers and Robert was on the Warriors. All they can recall now about playing in the league was that their uniform shirts were so long on their short bodies that they looked almost as if they were wearing dresses. Nevertheless, they regularly wore the shirts to school so they wouldn't have to change into their uniforms at home and could get into games that began at the Boys Club right after school. Despite that dedication,

Half of the fun of the old building was to discover previously unexplored rooms in the house.

however, the twins remember painfully that they virtually never scored a basket over their taller opponents. It was a different story, though, with another activity. Robert and Eric learned how to shoot BB guns in the basement of the Boys Club, in events known as "Turkey Shoots." They got pretty good at shooting and may even have won some contests.

On weekends, when the twins would stay at the Boys Club literally all day long, they were given lunch money to go to the nearby Burger Chef on Michigan Avenue for hamburgers and fries. During one of the lunches, the boys heard a loud crash. It turned out that a train had hit a car on Grove Road. Some boys from the club ran to the scene and helped rescue the driver, who fortunately was not killed. Several weeks later, the man came to the Boys Club and thanked the boys who had helped him out. Memories like that can shape a young life, and the Anschuetz twins,



The new Boys Club facility, built next to the Gilbert House in the late 1970s.

along with many other Ypsilanti boys who grew up in the 1970s, can certainly attest that they learned important life lessons through their activities in and around the Ypsilanti Boys Club.

Robert and Eric stopped going to the Boys Club around the time the new Boys Club complex was built next to the Gilbert House. The new building was a green, box-shaped building with no windows. In the twins' opinion, it had no charm or character at all. Half of the fun of the old building was to discover previously unexplored rooms in the house. Kids could almost always find one more room to look around in or play pool. The new building completely lost that mystique of mystery.

Shortly after the Anschuetz boys ended regular visits to the Boys Club, it made the national news by a tragic twist in a bus trip the staff had organized to Disney World in April, 1978. As the bus entered a rest stop in Georgia on its way down to Florida, the brakes failed and it ran off the road, killing three young boys. The event was publicized in national newspapers and even on network television. In fact, the *Ypsilanti Press* published a rare second edition to fully cover the tragedy. The Anschuetz twins knew some of the boys on the bus but fortunately, none of the boys they knew were among the seriously injured.

Eric and Robert have many fond memories of the Boys Club - even of its removal from the Gilbert House in 1974. With that development, the Gilbert House was sold by vote of the city taxpayers for \$1 and, with a large investment and much work, divided into stylish apartments and restored to its former glory. Robert and Eric are glad that, even today, people are able to explore the old mansion as they did when they were kids. Who knows, some of them might even be playing pool in a room where they themselves took on the legendary bumper-pool hustler!

(Robert and Eric Anschuetz wrote a story about the Camp-er-down Elm in the Winter 2012 issue of the Gleanings. Kurt, the youngest of the Anschuetz family has published an "Ypsilanti Timeline" on the website of the Prospect Park Neighborhood Association.)



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Museum Advisory Board Report

BY KATHRYN HOWARD, CHAIR, MUSEUM ADVISORY

Summer Activities of the Museum Advisory Board: Summer and warm weather have come to us and we are very grateful, after our long winter.

We did keep busy at the museum, those of us who could not be "Snow Birds." Lincoln and Estabrook Elementary Schools brought classes to see our museum. Nancy Wheeler found many interesting things to demonstrate and show the students.

Our Art Exhibit was a huge success with 18 exhibitors and over 80 paintings. The manikins are all beautifully dressed, thanks to Fofie Pappas, Nancy Wheeler and Laura Jacks. The large glass case has M. I. Hummel plates and figurines. They are from the collection of Cathy Kemling and Diane Schick. Also, some of the museum's beautiful cut glass pieces are on display. The smaller display has Donna Carpenter's lovely collection of Irish Belleek China.



The large glass case in the Library has Hummel plates and figurines.



Some of the Hummel plates and figurines on display.

The Lost Ypsilanti Exhibit features prominent people who were "quiet" leaders of Ypsilanti. You will not want to miss it as it runs from July 14 to September 1st.

A proposal to have the Quilt Show and Art Exhibit on alternate years is being discussed by the Museum Board. Watch for new information on this.

We welcome our new Intern, Kaila Barr, to the museum. Lauren Thomson graduated and we express our thanks to her for all her efforts over the past two years and extend our best wishes for her future.

Our long range project is to redo the Dining Room. It has been such a long time since it has had "some tender loving care."

We will be open during the Ypsilanti Heritage Festival on August 16, 17 and 18. We would welcome more demonstrators on the lawn. Contact me if you wish to participate: 734- 482-7081. We are also planning a full weekend of activity in early fall. You will hear more about this later.

The Yard Sale will be over when you read this, but thanks for all the hard work so many of you put into this activity.

Our "Thank You Luncheon" for our many faithful regular docents is scheduled for June 17th. Thanks to all the individuals who devote their time and efforts to make the Museum an outstanding place to visit.

Have a wonderful summer!

Kathryn J. Howard

Named for President Lincoln

BY JAMES MANN

The Lincoln Consolidated Schools, south of Ypsilanti, was first given the name of Rural Agricultural School District Number 1. The next name associated with the school was that of the school founder, Marvin S. Pittman. However, in 1924, Dr. Pittman, who at that time was the Head of the Rural Education Department at the Normal College, asked the Board to consider another name. The School Board then named the school Lincoln in honor of President Abraham Lincoln.

The memorial came about after a visit to the school by Sylvester Jerry and Samuel Cashwan early in the fall of 1935. Cashwan was then supervisor of the sculpture and ceramics program of the Works Progress Administration (WPA). The two had come to inspect murals which had just been completed in the cafeteria of the school. "It was at that time that certain members of the student body and faculty suggested to Mr. Cashwan that he design for the grounds at Lincoln School a memorial to Abraham Lincoln for whom the school is named," reported *The Ypsilanti Daily Press* April 29, 1938.

Samuel Cashwan was born in Russia in 1900. His family immigrated to the United States and settled in New York in 1906, and moved to Detroit, Michigan in 1916. He studied art at Detroit Central High School, the John Wicker School and at the Detroit City College. After the First World War he continued his studies at the Architectural League in New York and attended the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris from 1923 to 1926. Cashwan was supervisor for the State of Michigan WPA Art Program from 1936 until 1942.



Rather than facing the intersection of Whittaker and Willis Roads, the statue faces the children at the school from across the front yard.



The statue portrays a Lincoln of mature years wearing a shawl so characteristic of his later life.

"During my first acquaintance with the project," said Cashwan of the WPA, "I was deeply impressed with the many possibilities for development and the good that could be derived by the public from its activities...The greatest good a sculpture can perform is to create, not for a museum or a private collection, but for the common meeting places of men, to enhance and ennoble everyday life."

Cashwan found his idea of Lincoln by reading "Abraham Lincoln - Prairie Years" and "Abe Lincoln Grows Up" by Carl Sandburg. The limestone statue of President Lincoln stands 13 feet tall, and weighs over a ton. "It portrays a Lincoln of mature years wearing the shawl so characteristic of his later life. The figure of Lincoln stands against a base with hands reaching down toward small figures which represent different phases of his service to humanity," noted *The Ypsilanti Daily Press*.

"Let us be firm in the right as God gives us to see the right" is inscribed on the base of the statue. This was taken from Lincoln's second inaugural address which included the following:

"With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations."

The program concluded with the Normal College band playing "Scenes of the Civil War."

(James Mann is a local author and historian, a regular contributor to the Gleanings, and a researcher in the YHS Archives.)

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Ypsilanti History Featured in Detroit Historical Museum

BY TOM DODD

The new permanent exhibitions in the Detroit Historical Museum feature some unique Ypsilanti history. The Museum was closed from May to November in 2012 for \$12 million worth of renovations and when it reopened two of the five newly-installed permanent exhibitions feature Elijah McCoy and the Willow Run Bomber Plant.

The museum's "Gallery of Innovation" prominently displays Elijah McCoy and shining brass examples of the actual lubricating cups of his invention. Along with such luminaries as Henry Ford and Harley Earle, McCoy's display tells the inventor's story:

"Elijah McCoy is best known as the inventor of a practical railroad lubricating cup, a device that allowed train gears to be oiled while in motion, which saved time and reduced wear.

McCoy used his knowledge of mechanical engineering to solve other business and household problems. He developed a portable ironing board, lawn sprinkler and better tread patterns for rubber tires.

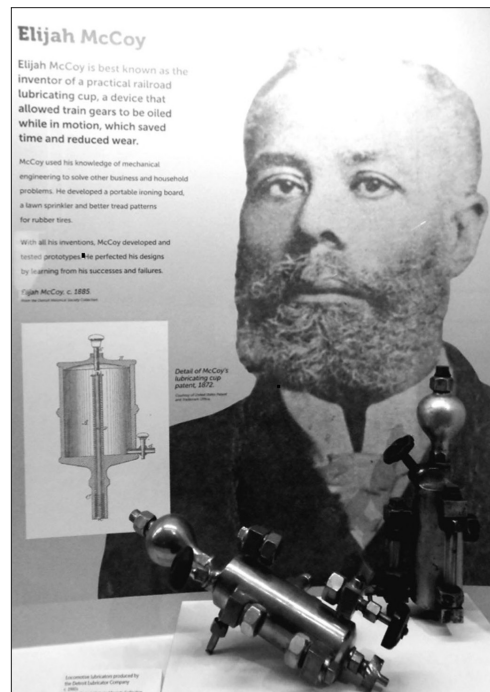
With all his inventions, McCoy developed and tested prototypes. He perfected his designs by learning from his successes and failures."

Another new installation titled "Detroit: The Arsenal of Democracy" features Willow Run and the production of B-24 bombers for the World War II effort.

The two Ypsilanti features hold up well and are prominently displayed among more than 250,000 artifacts at the Museum that represent more than 300 years of our region's history.

Ypsilanti's history is well represented in Detroit's unique historical museum at 5401 Woodward in Detroit next to Detroit's Main Library and across the street from the Detroit Institute of Art. Admission is free and there is secure parking in a dedicated parking lot behind the Museum for \$5.

(Tom Dodd was working on this issue of the GLEANINGS when he suddenly passed away on May 12, 2013.)



McCoy's picture is on display with examples of his lubricating cups.



The Willow Run Bomber Plant and Elijah McCoy are two of the exhibits in the renovated Detroit Historical Museum.

A Sleeping Lamb for Winnifred

BY JAMES MANN

In Cemetery symbolism, the sleeping lamb usually marks the grave of a child. Highland Cemetery has many graves marked by the sleeping lamb. The most moving of these sleeping lambs rests atop the grave of Winnifred Watling, the daughter of John and Una Watling. Her father was the first college educated dentist in the state of Michigan, and was a founder of the Dental School at the University of Michigan.

Winnifred died on Sunday, February 10, 1884, at the age of 11. The cause of death is not reported, but death at an early age was common then. Friends and family came to pay their respects at the home on North Huron Street, on Tuesday, February 12, 1884. Visitors included Professors and students of the Dental School of the University.

Gravestone inscription:

Winnifred
Second daughter of
John A & Eunice Wright Watling
Died Feb. 10, 1884
Age 11 years 1 Month

“Little Winnie will be missed beyond the immediate home circle; for her bright intelligence, ready utterance, and sweet demeanor graced ever by a charming sprightliness characteristically her own, had won for her hosts of loving friends both old and young,” noted *The Ypsilanti Commercial* of Saturday, February 16, 1884.

The obituary included the following poem:

Within her dowry cradle, there lay a little child,
And a group of hovering angels unseen upon her smiled;
When a strife arose among them, a loving holy strife,
Which should shed the richest blessing upon her new life.

One breathed upon her features, and the babe in beauty grew,
With a cheek like morning's blushes, and an eye of hazel hue;
Till everyone who saw her was thankful for the sight
Of a face so sweet and radiant with ever fresh delight.

Another gave her accents, and a voice as musical
As a spring bird's joyous carol, or a rippling streamlet's fall;
Till all who heard her laughing, or her words of childish grace,
Loved as much to listen to her, as to look upon her face.

Another brought from heaven a clear and gentle mind,
And within the lovely casket the precious gem enshrined;
Till all who knew her wondered that God should be so good
As to bless with such a spirit a world so cold and rude.



The sleeping lamb on top of Winnifred's gravestone.



The back side of Winnifred's gravestone with the "Winni" inscription.



The Watling family plot at Highland Cemetery.



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Thus did she grow in beauty, in melody and truth,
The budding of her childhood just opening into youth;
And to our hearts yet dearer, every moment than before,
She became, though we thought fondly heart could not love her more.

Then out spake another angel, nobler, brighter than the rest,
As with strong arm, but tender, he caught her to his breast:
“Ye have made her all too lovely for a child of mortal race,
But no shade of human sorrow shall darken o’er her face:
“Ye have turned to gladness only the accents of her tongue,
And no wail of human anguish shall from her lips be wrung:
Nor shall the soul that shineth so purely from within
Her form of earth-born frailty ever know a sense of sin.

“Lulled in my faithful bosom, I will bear her far away,
Where there is no sin, nor anguish nor sorrow nor decay;
And mine a boon more glorious that all your gifts shall be—
Lo! I crown her happy spirit with immortality!”

The Watling family ordered a memorial portrait of a blonde haired girl. This image may have been a likeness of Winnifred. Memorial portraits of deceased members of the family were a common practice during the 19th century. This portrait was displayed in the Children’s Room of the Ypsilanti Public Library for many years. Today, this portrait is above the fireplace in the front parlor of the Ypsilanti Historical Museum.

(James Mann is a local author and historian, a regular contributor to the Gleanings, and a researcher in the YHS Archives.)



The memorial portrait of Winnifred that hangs in the front parlor of the Ypsilanti Historical Museum.

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The Saga of the EMU Hurons

BY JACK D. MINZEY

In 1991, an event took place at Eastern Michigan University that was to shake the foundations of the institution and to become a dividing force for years to come. The beginning of the event was a complaint by an EMU student that the name Huron and the logo of an Indian were negative reflections on the American Indian and discriminatory to Indian students. The motivation for the complaint had come from the staff of the Office of Student Affairs.

The complaint was lodged with the Office of the Michigan Civil Rights, and the President of EMU, Dr. William Shelton, was notified of this complaint. President Shelton reacted by appointing a committee to investigate the nature of the complaint and to report to his office with a recommendation which could then go to the Board of Regents. Dr. Gene Smith, Director of Athletics, was appointed to head this committee.

Dr. Smith was a task master, and the investigation was both intensive and thorough. Our committee met and laid out a plan as to how we would proceed. The investigation went on for several months and consisted of numerous activities which resulted in significant findings. One group from the committee was selected to identify the background of the problem. It was discovered that the name Huron and the logo had been the result of a contest at Michigan State Normal College in the 1920s. The person who proposed the nickname was an American Indian student. Further investigations revealed that there were 250 organizations and businesses in Washtenaw County that had the word Huron in their name. It was also discovered that the name Huron was applied to a river, county, lake and several streets. In fact, only a few months earlier, the Board of Regents had petitioned the county to have the road in front of the University Golf course and Conference Center renamed Huron Street. It was obvious that Huron was a term of endearment in the local area.

Another report came from the committee members researching the name Hurons. It was reported that the name Huron was actually a French word and that the Huron Indians were referred to as Hurons because of their location relative to Lake Huron. Despite the fact that claims had been made that the Huron Tribes were extinct, it was discovered that the Hurons were actually Wyandottes and that there were thousands of Wyandottes living through-



The EMU Huron logo that created so much controversy on and off the campus.

out North America, led by two chiefs; Chief Leanord Bearskin from Oklahoma who was also a Lt. Col. in the United States Army, and Chief Max Gros-Louis from Quebec, Canada.

At the same time, a series of surveys were taking place among the University constituents. These included faculty, students, staff and alumni. When these results were tabulated, over 90% of each group indicated that they favored keeping the name Huron and seeking another logo. Interestingly, this was also the opinion of the 70 American Indian Students on campus.

Dr. Smith arranged to hold open hearings on this topic on campus. The hearings provided a place where various groups and individuals could express their feelings and air their emotions. Dr. Smith ran the sessions in an efficient way, and the sessions were always kept on task. At one of these sessions, the Michigan Civil Rights representative indicated that their office did not have an objection to the use of the word Huron. They just wanted to be assured that the logo was used in a tasteful and dignified way.

While all of this was happening, several other events were going on which represented the heat being generated by the issue with some activities bordering on the bizarre. Opponents to the name and logo demonstrated on campus and distributed flyers indicating their position. One group of supporters hired an attorney who appeared at the Regents' meetings to express their opposition. His approach was very aggressive and accusatory and in reality, probably did more to undermine his position than to enhance his cause. During one meeting with the alumni board, the President of the University was shouted down by hecklers which resulted in some very bad feelings on all sides.

At a meeting of the Regents, a purported Cherokee from Saline, Chief Yellowhawk, appeared in full regalia, including headdress and tom toms. He went through several

dances and chants and then had unlimited time to speak to the Regents. His position was that he opposed both the name and the logo since he felt both were discriminatory to his tribe. Interestingly, a few months after this issue was officially resolved, it was discovered that he was not an American Indian, and he had been charged, arrested and imprisoned for a capital crime.

The supporters of the name arranged for Chief Bearskin to come to Ypsilanti and give his support to those wishing to keep the name and the logo. Arrangements were made to fly him to the University, and he was placed on the agenda of a coming Regents' meeting. He did come to campus at the appointed date and time, but the Regents cancelled their meeting, and thus, it was not possible for him to have his input on the subject. This, of course, just added to the hostility. Because of this perceived disrespect of the Wyandotte

Chief, the supporters created the "Huron Manifesto" which was a document signed by both chiefs as an indication of their desire to have the name Hurons remain as a part of Eastern Michigan University by stating their support for the "Restoration of the Huron name and emblem..."

The committee also investigated one other situation which they felt was relevant to their charge. Central Michigan University had gone through a similar experience. They too had involved the local chiefs and were able to come up with an acceptable solution. In their case, at the direction of the Chippewa Tribe, they kept the name Chippewas but eliminated the logo. For their new logo, they adopted the block C.

Now, with all this information, it was time to report to the Regents with a recommendation. All of the evidence seemed to point to a solution similar to Central's. It would be suggested that Eastern keep the name Hurons and seek a new logo. At the Regents meeting, Dr. Smith gave his report in a very convincing fashion. It then appeared that the board was going to vote favorably on his recommendation. However, before the vote could be taken, Regent Burton, an Afro-American and President of the Board of Regents, asked to address the board. He gave an impassioned speech, relating what it was like to be a minority and how he felt the name and logo were discriminatory. Caught by surprise, the board decided to table the motion and reconsider it the following month. They then charged President Sheldon to come to the next board meeting, prepared to recommend a suitable logo.

When the following regents meeting arrived, things changed dramatically. Prior to the vote on the motion, President Shelton asked to address the board. Those who knew him knew that he was an outstanding speaker, and in a very emotional presentation, he told the board that he considered both the name and the logo to be offensive and recommended that the board discard

both. Then, Regent Burton rose and made his comments. He said that during the past month, he had talked to many of his friends and fellow minorities and that he felt that he had been wrong in his comments at the previous meeting. He said that he now felt that the board should keep the name and find another logo.

Now the board was perplexed. The issue was no longer the name and the logo. It had now become whether the board should support the president or the chairman of the board. As it turned out, the vote was split with the president being the decisive factor. The decision was to result in a major revolt on behalf of those who were angry about the decision, especially the alumni. There was an organized reaction which resulted in less financial and overt support for the University. There was also an organized effort by certain university administrators to ban all evidence of Huron verbiage or paraphernalia from the campus. Huron supporters were not allowed to participate in any event associated with Eastern Michigan University, and Huron supporters organized the largest EMU alumni chapter and called it the Huron Chapter. And while the degree of dissatisfaction has diminished over the intervening years, the bitterness still exists and will probably do so until those people who were loyal Hurons are no longer around.

The interesting thing about this entire event is that with all the effort invested in trying to come up with an appropriate solution, and with the vast majority of everyone involved desiring to remain Hurons, the decision came down to speeches by two people. And had the vote taken place one month earlier, Eastern Michigan University students, faculty, staff and alumni would still be identified as Hurons.

(Jack Minzey is a retired Eastern Michigan University faculty member and administrator and a member of the Ypsilanti Morning Coffee Group.)

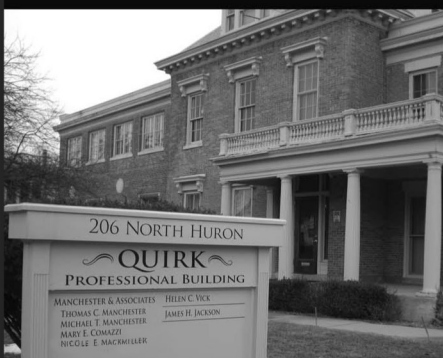
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One of four Michigan Collegiate League championship trophies won by Michigan Normal School from 1926 to 1930.



The Washtenaw County Clash of 1930

BY DR. ERIK PEDERSEN

During my thirty nine years at Eastern Michigan University in the Department of Health Physical Education and Dance, I heard many stories about persons, events, and athletic contests of the past. The one story that always intrigued me was about a 1930 football game between the Michigan Normal School in Ypsilanti and the University of Michigan. Upon reviewing articles on the 1930 game, it didn't take long for me to realize that this game had several interesting aspects to it. In other words, there were many stories within a story. Reflections of someone who was at the game, the game itself, the accolades of an outstanding player, and the influence of a legendary coach were areas that evolved.

The motivation for this article started when I was making a History of Football presentation to the Silver Maples Retirement Community in Chelsea, Michigan on November 29, 2012. While mentioning the September 27, 1930 foot-

ball game between the University of Michigan and the Normal School in Ypsilanti, a person attending the session, John Keusch, said "I was at that game."

I was very surprised to actually meet someone who attended a football game that took place over 82 years ago. I asked John if he would be willing to be interviewed regarding his observations of that game and he said he

would be happy to do so. John was 103 years old at the time of two interviews held in February of 2013. Regardless of his age, at the time of these inter-

views, John still had some memories of that game. The strength of the Normal School line and the outstanding play of Andy Vanyo were still clear in his mind.

The 1930 game was of special interest to him since he attended the Normal School in Ypsilanti for his freshman year. He transferred to the University of Michigan in 1928 to attend law school. John indicated that he was an avid football fan. He hardly missed a game and eventually purchased season tickets. His enthusiasm started at ten years of age while watching games played on Ferry Field on the University of Michigan campus. During his lifetime he attended seven Rose Bowl games. He recalled that in the 1930's the University of Michigan football stadium was not always sold out as games are today. Many times only half the seats were filled during the depression years. People just didn't have the money to attend athletic events.

Normal School Football and the 1930 Season: The Normal College News of September 29, 1930 noted that "Elton Ryneerson had been molding a powerful Huron eleven since his first season as coach in 1925." Records from 1925 to 1930 support that statement. In his first six years, 1925 to 1930, as the Huron football coach, his teams won 40 games, tied two, and lost only four. Ryneerson's teams piled up 1,069 points to 111 for opponents during that period. During the years 1925 through 1930 the Hurons won one Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association Championship and four Michigan Collegiate League Championships.

The 1930 season was considered by many to be the most successful for the Normal School. Although it started



John Keusch holding the helmet worn by Olin Sanders in the 1930 football game.

with a 7-0 loss to Michigan, many considered the loss as a moral victory. During the 1930 season the Hurons tallied 145 points to their opponents 14. Michigan went on to an undefeated season and were considered to be one of the elite college football teams in the country. They tied for the Big Ten Championship with Northwestern. The Huron squad also went undefeated for the remainder of the 1930 season and won the Michigan Collegiate League Championship.

1930 Football Record:			
University of Michigan.....	7	Normal	0
College of City of Detroit	6	Normal	33
Western State Teachers College	0	Normal	19
Central State Teachers College	0	Normal	13
Georgetown (Kentucky) College	0	Normal	45
University of Notre Dame "B"	0	Normal	16
Iowa State Teachers College	0	Normal	13
TOTAL.....	13	TOTAL.....	145

Another highlight of the 1930 season was a Huron victory over the Notre Dame B football squad. "The Notre Dame B squad was the strongest the South Bend mentor, Knute Rockne, had put on the gridiron for many years. And the loss was the first that aggregation had suffered that season." The game was played as part of Normal's dedication of the new McKinney Union. The 16 to 0 score was also the second victory over Notre Dame in as many starts.

The Game: The 1930 football game between the Normal School and the University of Michigan was the first game of the season for both teams. Michigan was probably intending for its meeting with Ypsilanti to be a preseason warm-up. The fact that the day included a football double header supports this position. The University of Michigan second string opened play earlier in the day against Denison University. Although no score was given, newspaper accounts noted that the University of Michigan "walked off with a top heavy score."

The same was expected of Michigan against the Normal football team. Although Harry Kipke, Michigan's coach, "showed a decided respect for Normal when he announced that he would save his first team for the second game against the Hurons, there were few among even the staunchest supporters of the green and white who dared hope that a Michigan eleven could be held to a low scoring game." An interesting quote in the Normal News noted "and Michigan's confidence made the outlook none too bright for Normal."

Starting line Ups:

Michigan.....	Michigan Normal
Hewitt.....	L.E.....Wood
Purdum.....	L.T.....Buckholz
Lajuenesse.....	L.G.....Bernhagen
Morrison.....	C.....Stover
Cornwell.....	R.G.....Vanyo
Samuels.....	R.T.....Shoemaker
Daniels.....	R.E.....Muellich
Tessmer.....	Q.B.....Arnold
Simnall.....	L.G.....Hawk
Heston.....	R.H.....Tuttle
Hudson.....	F.B.....Simmons

Much of the doubt about how the Normal team would perform centered around the fact that they would be starting three inexperienced players in the backfield. The 1929 backfield was considered to be the "greatest trio that Normal ever had on the same team." In their place were two sophomores and one junior who had very little playing experience. However, there was some optimism in the Normal camp. "The coaches felt confident as they added the finishing touches to a new Huron eleven on Friday afternoon that it contained ample ability to provide Harry Kipke's Wolverines with an extremely busy session and that at worst, Michigan would only win by a narrow margin." Coach Rynearson's hope centered with the nearly all veteran forward line which as it turned out was a dominant force in the game.

"Michigan had the advantage of a "much bigger offensive line, a highly touted array of backs, and superior reserve strength." Yet Michigan could only manage seven first downs for the game compared to six for the Normal squad. Game accounts indicate that most of Michigan's yards were gained on "flank plays" and passes by its quarterback Tessmer. One example of the Normal team's line strength came in the third quarter when Michigan had a second and one situation on Normal's eighteen yard line. Michigan tried three running plays through the middle of the Huron line and failed to make one yard and consequently had to give up the ball. In the press box "the conversation among the assembled scribes was high praise for the Huron line and how much Normal would take to trade lines with Michigan."



Coach Elton Rynearson.

For everyone except the Huron football team, the outcome was a surprise. Newspaper headlines the next day read "Hurons Make an Unexpected Stand Against Wolverine Eleven," "Normal Line Stops Michigan Cold," and "Wolverines Eke Out 7 - 0 Victory Over The Normal Eleven." Before the game, one Wolverine extremist

was heard offering odds that the Maize and Blue would pile up a score of 35 to 0 at the half. He probably has a severe headache as a result."

Coach Rynearson, his staff, and players were very happy with the outcome of the game even though they lost. The Normal School went undefeated the rest of the year and had only one touchdown scored against them for the remainder of the season.

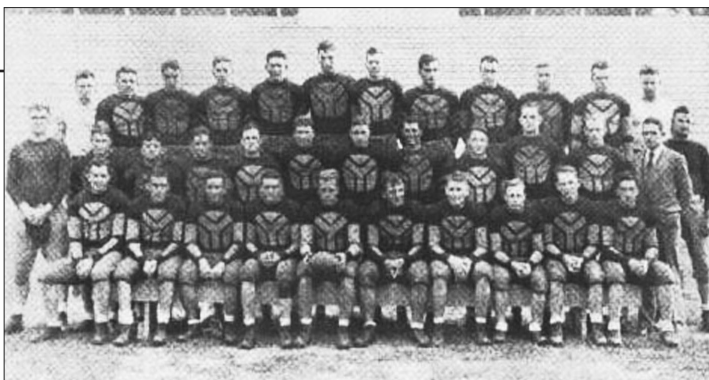
It is difficult to note the performance of just one player from the 1930 University of Michigan and the Normal School football game. Captain Paul Shoemaker and George Muellich, along with Andy Vanyo, formed the highly recognized right side of the Normal line and all deserve recognition. One writer noted "the splendid fighting spirit of Captain Shoemaker and his mates won the hearts of the football world at large. "However, the people who attended the game and those in the press box remarked at the excellent play of Normal's Andy Vanyo."



Andy Vanyo.

According to the *Ypsilanti News*, "There was one in particular among the brilliant group of forwards who shown out above his mates. Andy Vanyo simply could not be stopped and he was seen in practically every play. Three times he kicked off to Michigan and twice he tackled the man who received it." The other time he recovered a Tessmer fumble which proved to be the most exciting moment in the game. "Vanyo brought the 65,000 fans up shouting when he recovered a fumble and raced 67 yards, outdistancing several Michigan men to the goal line. In the excitement of that moment there were few who accurately sensed the situation and the word 'Touchdown' was flashed on a dozen telegraph instruments and written on twice as many typewriters before the play was recalled an instant later." The ball was brought back under a rule, which at that time, made a fumble dead at the point of recovery.

Vanyo's outstanding play continued all season. Football critics claimed that he was without peer in the Midwest at guard. Robert Zuppke, the University of Illinois coach, was scouting Michigan for an upcoming game and was so impressed with Vanyo's play that he asked him to play for the 1930 Midwest-Southwest All Star Game on New Year's day in Dallas, Texas. Knute Rockne selected him as member of his Midwest All-Star Team and he was named to Walter Camp's All-American Team as a second team selection. Vanyo was elected to EMU's Athletic Hall of Fame in 1978.



The 1930 Normal School football team.

Although the main focus of this article has been the 1930 football game between The University of Michigan and the Michigan Normal School at Ypsilanti, I would be remiss not to acknowledge the influence and some of the accomplishments from Elton Rynearson's career.

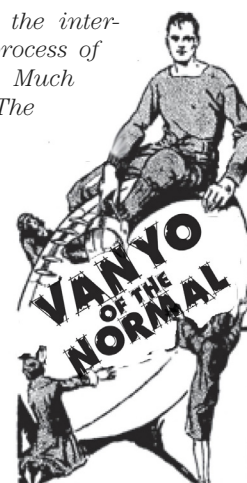
Rynearson assumed the full time duties as athletic director, head football coach, and teacher at the Normal College in 1925. He was the Normal School football coach for 28 years. He compiled a won-lost record of 114 wins, 58 losses, and 15 ties. He never had a losing season. "Rynie" coached every varsity sport at one time or another and also served as athletic director during his 46 years at the Ypsilanti Normal School. He was elected to the Eastern Michigan University Athletic Hall of Fame in 1976.

Elton Rynearson: Rynearson was respected and admired by his students. He was considered a coach of the "old school" who had a personal interest in those he worked with. Those who knew him said he spoke his mind and stood by his convictions. Among his many professional awards was being inducted into the National Football Foundation Hall of Fame.

With regard to the "1930 Washtenaw County Clash," one Normal school supporter summarized the feelings of many when he commented, "and in back of this team is our coach – Elton Rynearson. No one knows how much he did and how hard he worked to put onto the field such a squad of clean and fine representative athletes."

(Dr. Erik Pedersen is a retired Professor from Eastern Michigan University where he taught for 37 years in the Teacher Preparation Program in the Department of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.)

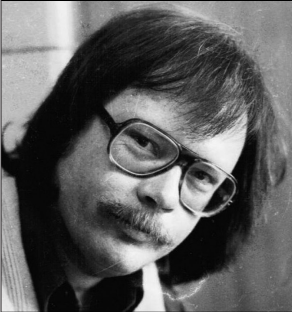
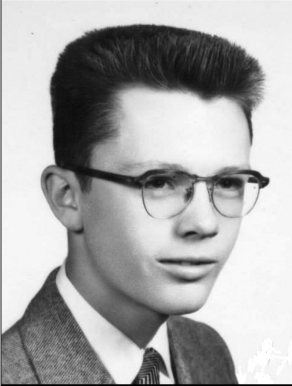
(Acknowledgements: As noted earlier, the interviews with John Keusch started the process of gathering information for this article. Much descriptive detail was obtained from The Normal News and the Ypsilanti Press publications from September 26th to November 13th, 1930. Statistical data was provided by Greg Steiner, the Assistant Athletics Director for Media Relations at Eastern Michigan University. General background and biographical information was obtained from, A History of Physical Education at Eastern Michigan University, 1852 – 1996, by Erik J. Pedersen.)





Tom Dodd – Community Leader and Activist

BY AL RUDISILL



Tom grew up in Pontiac, MI in 1935 and moved to Ypsilanti in the mid 1970s. He became a leader in the effort to make Depot Town come alive again.

The Ypsilanti community lost a great friend and leader in the passing of Tom Dodd on Sunday, May 12, 2013. His active involvement with the people and events in Ypsilanti dates back 50 years and there are few people in our community who did not know him as a friend and activist who committed his time and talents to making our community a better place to live.

Tom was born on June 6, 1935 in Pontiac, Michigan where his father Virgil worked for General Motors Corporation for 45 years. His family lived in an experimental commune for auto workers, called West Acres, that was built in 1934 for auto workers and their families who made less than \$1,200 annually. He met his future wife, Bettie, whose

family lived in West Acres, when they were both in the sixth grade and they later enrolled together at Alma College. Tom became class president and president of his fraternity at Alma College.

Tom received his Bachelor's Degree from Alma College in 1957 with concentrations in Art and Education. He married Bettie after college and they moved to Lake Orion where Tom taught art and Bettie taught third grade. Their son, Greg, was born in 1962 and shortly after that Tom graduated from the University of Michigan with a Master's Degree in Art Education.

Next, Tom and his family moved to Ypsilanti where Tom taught art at Eastern Michigan University's Roosevelt High School. He then taught at Tappan and Pioneer High Schools in Ann Arbor before taking teaching positions at

the alternative Pioneer II, which was also known as Earth Works. Pioneer II eventually merged with Community High, another alternative school.

In the mid 1970s, the Dodd family bought the building at 46 East Cross Street in Depot Town and moved into the 3,000 square foot top floor. The space included a ballroom and meeting rooms that the Masonic Lodge used in the mid to late 1800s. The ballroom became Tom's art studio and for meetings of the many organizations in which he was a member. The Dodd family lived in that space with 15 foot ceilings for 15 years before putting it up for sale.

Tom was one of the first of the avante garde individuals in Depot Town who combined efforts to force out absentee landlords whose buildings had fallen into disrepair. Together they recruited new landlords who moved into the 130 year old buildings, renovated them and made Depot Town come alive again.

Tom was a community leader and activist who worked to sponsor jazz concerts, assisted in the renovation of the freight house, wrote songs and skits for the Ypsilanti Community Players (a community theater group), started the Depot Town community newspaper, the "Depot Town Rag" serving as writer and editor, was commissioned to paint the exterior of four 90-foot cars and the caboose of the Artrain (the Artrain was founded by the Michigan Council for the Arts in 1971), was a member of the Michigan Sesquicentennial Commission in 1987 that planned Michigan's 150th Anniversary as a state, served on the Washtenaw Council for the Arts, was a member and President of the Depot Town Association, served as a member of the Ypsilanti City Council and many other activities too numerous to mention.



Everyone who knew Tom appreciated his humor and outgoing personality.

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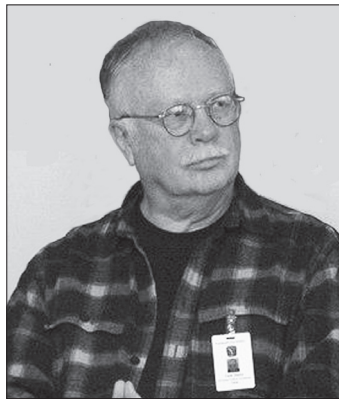
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Tom is also well known for his extensive writings. "Our Heritage: Down by the Depot in Ypsilanti" is a book he co-authored with local author James Mann at the request of the Depot Town Association, Inc. The book contains stories about people, places and events in Ypsilanti's history. Tom also contributed hundreds of stories about local history to area and state newsletters and magazines.

The first Ypsilanti Heritage Festival was held in 1979 and Tom was one of the founders of this annual event. Last year he initiated the "Chautauqua by the Riverside" program at the 2012 Festival and just recently completed the planning for the "Chautauqua" program that will be held in August at the 2013 Festival.

Tom was an active member of the Ypsilanti Historical Society and, in addition to researching and writing many stories, did the layout and design work for this award winning publication. He also served as the Editor for the Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation newsletter and a number of other history related publications.

Tom will be missed by all those who knew and loved him and it will be a huge job to find people to fill the many shoes he wore volunteering his many talents in support of community projects and activities.



Tom Dodd made significant contributions to the City of Ypsilanti as a community leader and activist.

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(George Ridenour is a regular contributor to the Gleanings and a volunteer researcher in the YHS Archives.)

The Green Book

The 1940 edition of The Negro Motorist Green-Book.

BY GEORGE RIDENOUR

The “open highway” WAS NOT so open to all Americans. While sitting in the U.S. Senate gallery in June, 1964 I listened to the debate over what would become the landmark 1964 Civil Rights Bill. Little did I realize after a plane ride, a good room, eating and drinking anywhere I wanted while in DC, that this same “right” was not open to all! Little did I realize until 2011 that the “open road” was not so for all Americans.

The daughter of A. P. Marshall came to visit the archives. A. P. Marshall served as Dean of Academic Services at Eastern Michigan University and was a leader in the Ypsilanti community. Marshall’s daughter mentioned she wanted a copy of the Green Book and my immediate reaction was that I would simply find a copy and present it to her. However, in my search for a copy I found it did not exist on Amazon or other booksellers.

I did not realize what this Green Book was, where it could be purchased, why it was published, or anything about the content. Therefore, I want to share with you information about “The Green Book” aka “The Negro Motorist Green Book” that I discovered in my efforts to locate a copy of this publication. In addition to the title, the following information was published on the cover of the 1949 issue: “An International Travel Guide to USA, Alaska, Bermuda, Mexico and Canada. - Carry your Green Book with you....You might need it. - Travel is Fatal to Prejudice.” The “Travel is Fatal to Prejudice” is a quote from Mark Twain.

In 1936, the first year of publication, The Green Book was a local directory for those living in New York. The publication, which was produced by Victor H. Green and Company of New York went national the next year. Mr. Green

was a Harlem postal worker and civic leader who was responding to the humiliations, violence and discrimination directed toward Negro travelers during that time period.

The purpose of The Green Book was “...to give the Negro traveler information that will keep him from running into difficulties, embarrassments and to make his trips more enjoyable.” This was not a new

idea. Jews and Whites, previous to The Green Book, had their own publications detailing where they could find all kinds of travel information.

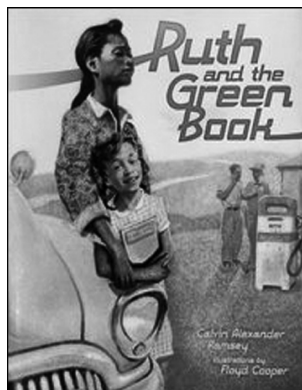
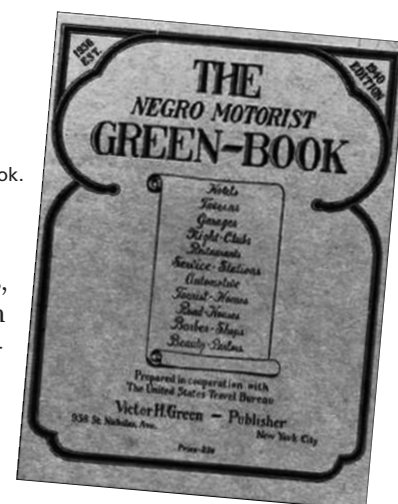
The book was only to last until discrimination of Negroes was over and the open highway was friendly to all. As stated in the introduction to the book “...There will be a day sometime in the near future when this guide will not have to be published. That is when we as a race will have equal opportunities and privileges in all the United States. It will be a great day for us to suspend this publication for then we can go wherever we please, and without embarrassment.....”

The purpose was to show the Negro motorist, listing states and cities, where they could find Negro owned or Negro friendly places. For example: “...Hotels, tourist homes, restaurants, beauty parlors, barber shops, and various other services that would assist the Negro traveler to feel comfortable and safe in travels.”

While thumbing through the book I looked up Michigan. There is in Washtenaw County a listing for Ann Arbor only. Hotels are listed: American, 123 Washington Street and Allenel, 126 E. Huron Street. Tourist home: Ms. E. M. Dickson, 144 Hill Street. No listings in this edition for Ypsilanti.

To show the plight of a traveler Calvin Alexander Ramsey has written “Ruth and the Green Book.” One point that surprised me in reading this “children’s book” is that Esso Gas Stations were the only service stations where the Negro Traveler could find all the services he needed, i.e. bathroom rights, drinking fountains, gas and cool drinks. Also, there were no “Whites Only” signs at Esso Gas Stations. Esso was a prime distributor of The Green Book. Esso was also a major franchisor for Negroes. This book will give the reader an insight into the times and dilemmas facing Negro travelers.

The Civil Rights Bill of 1964 was passed and signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson. The Green Book ceased publication that year. Along with many other books from the past, most copies of “The Green Book” were tossed out, thrown in trunks, burned or just forgotten. (PS: If you have one, they are valuable!) Finally, the roads of our nation finally begin to be open to all travelers.



“Ruth and the Green Book” a fictional story about a trip Ruth took in the 1950s.

Ypsilanti -

Named by Woodward

BY TOM DODD

Ypsilanti's Woodward Street – just two blocks south of Michigan Avenue – is not often confused with Detroit's Woodward Avenue, but they are named for the same person and for the same reason. Augustus Woodward left his mark on both cities.

Woodward had been appointed the first Chief Justice of the Michigan Territory where he played a vital role in the planning and reconstruction of Detroit following the great fire in 1805. He was also a key figure in the development of Ypsilanti. Although he never lived here, he owned land, succeeded in giving the community its present name, and had streets named for him.

Augustus Brevoort Woodward was born in Virginia in November of 1774 and died July 12, 1827. It is speculated he received his college education from William and Mary College in Williamsburg, Virginia. In his early life, Woodward devoted himself to literary pursuits and wrote and published several works.



Some scholars attribute Woodward's big nose in this caricature as merely a political job.



This formal portrait of Woodward again shows that the gentleman did indeed have a huge proboscis.

Woodward never married; his personal style might not have been conducive to sharing quarters with other humans. His biographer, Arthur W. Woodford, describes Woodward as a prototype of Washington Irving's Ichabod Crane, being "six feet, three or four inches tall, thin, sallow, and stooped," notes Woodford. "His long, narrow face was dominated by a big nose. His only outward vestige (sic) of vanity was a generous crop of thick, black hair. His contemporaries commented on his slovenliness."

Woodward was present at the official formation of the District of Columbia and witnessed the laying of the cornerstone for the District at Jones' Point in 1792. He became the first attorney to establish a law practice in the nation's new capital. At that time he was described as "a man of middle age, a

hardened bachelor who wore nut-brown clothing...he slept in his office which was never swept...and was eccentric and erratic. His friends were few and his practice was so small that he hardly made a living."

Sent to the Michigan Territory: On March 3, 1805, President Thomas Jefferson appointed Woodward as the first Chief Justice of the Michigan Territory. Woodward arrived in Detroit on June 30, 1805, two weeks



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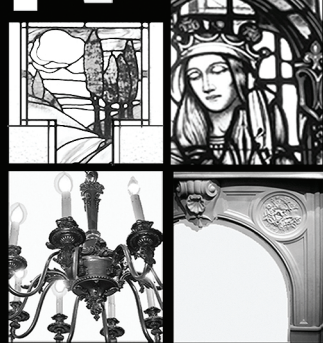
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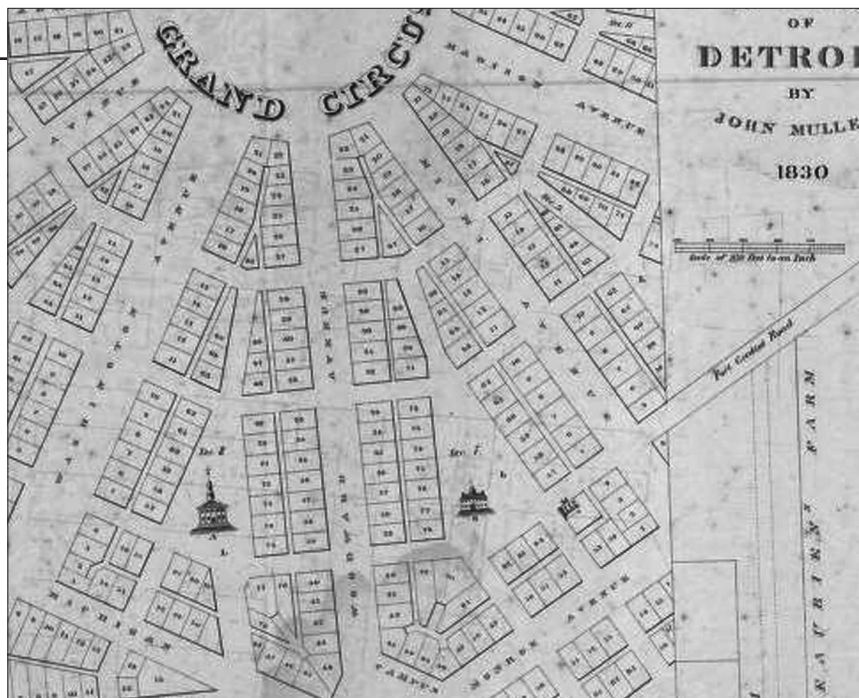
after the great fire had destroyed most of the city. With Territorial Governor William Hull (the general who later surrendered Detroit to the British at the start of the War of 1812) and Associate Justices John Griffin and Frederick Bates, the quartet had all the legislative power in the Territory and the authority to oversee the rebuilding of the capital. They remained a powerful team from 1805 until the institution of a legislature in 1824; but it was not a pleasant undertaking. Over their years together, Woodward and Hull bickered with each other on nearly every issue.

Woodward took care of business with perspicacity, style and wit. In his 2005 story, "Broken, Obsolete and Wildcat Banknotes," Fletcher-White Archives Director Gerry Pety pointed out "...in 1806 Judge Augustus B. Woodward of the village of Detroit, Michigan (population 600), organized the Bank of Detroit. He announced its capital at \$1 million, ordered at least \$3 million from the printer in notes of \$1 to \$10, signed them, or had them signed for him, and shipped them East. Smart Easterners can always take advantage of country folk, so they bought up the issue at discounts of 10 to 25 percent. When they tried to redeem the notes at face value in 1808, they found that the Bank of Detroit had closed its doors. Judge Woodward, a Cheshire cat smile on his face, had in the meantime put quite a bit of money in the form of hard coin in another honest bank.

As late as 1824, outraged citizens were still trying to prevent Judge Woodward's continuing reappointment by the United States Senate to the local bench. Woodward's Bank of Detroit notes are today the most common of all broken banknotes."

In 1807, in his position as Territorial Justice, Woodward denied the return of two slaves owned by a man in Windsor, Upper Canada (present day Ontario). Woodward declared that any man "coming into this Territory is by law of the land a freeman."

Penned a street plan, punned its motive: Justice



The original Detroit street plan.

Woodward and Governor Hull did agree on at least a few items. They drew up a plan for the streets of a new Detroit, the capital of the Territory. Basing their design on L'Enfant's layout for Washington, D.C., Woodward's version of the plan attempted to live up to the newly adopted city motto: *Speramus Meliora, Resurgit Cineribus* (We hope for better days, it will rise again from the ashes.)

For the first time in its history, Detroit's attention shifted from the river to its roads. Woodward Avenue in Detroit, originally called Court House Avenue and other names, was popularly named for Woodward's efforts in rebuilding the city.

He was known for his sarcasm and used it often in defense of his projects and proposals. In a story in the *Detroit News*, (Woodward Avenue, Detroit's grand old 'Main Street,' June 13, 1999) Vivian M. Baulch notes "Judge Woodward was quite a character. Controversies about his judicial opinions caused one contemporary to describe him as "A wild theorist fit only to extract sunbeams from cucumbers."

"He loved puns," remembers Baulch. "Returning from an absence to find the street that would later permanently bear his name called Witherell, he said that it 'withered all his plans.'"

According to Detroit historian George Catlin, "There was more or less disagreement over the naming of streets and some of the names were changed several times." Judge Augustus B. Woodward was at times highly sarcastic and something of a 'kiddier.' When some protested the naming of Woodward Avenue, he made the curious retort that Woodward Avenue was not named for him, but because it led wood-ward, toward the forested district north of town.

"Atwater Street," the Judge said, was not named for Reuben Atwater, but because it was literally 'at water,' being on the riverfront; that Woodbridge Street was not named for William Woodbridge, but because it began at a wooden bridge across the little Savoyard River near the foot of First Street. Catlin says, "It was one of Judge

Woodward's efficient methods in debate to confuse his opponents by some ingenious ruse."

Woodward proposed a system of hexagonal street blocks, with the Grand Circus at its center, taking its name from ancient Rome. Wide avenues, alternatively 200 feet and 120 feet, radiated from large circular plazas like the spokes of a wheel. As the city grew, these would spread in all directions from the banks of the Detroit River.

When Woodward presented this proposal, Detroit had fewer than 1,000 residents. The plan was abandoned eleven years later, but not before some of its most significant elements had been implemented. Most prominent remnants of the original design are the six "spokes" of Woodward, Michigan, Grand River, Gratiot, and Jefferson Avenues together with Fort Street. The pattern would be underlined and repeated through the years from the patterns of the Interurban Railways to the radiation in Interstate Highways.

During the War of 1812, Governor (and later Brigadier General) Hull surrendered Detroit to the British without a shot being fired. While Hull and Justices Bates and Griffin left town, Woodward stayed and maintained his status in Detroit during the British occupation. The British offered him the office of Secretary of the Territory, but Woodward turned it down. Eventually, the British considered him a nuisance and asked him to leave the Territory with safe passage to New York.

Considered a hero upon his return to Washington D. C., Woodward soon focused on his lifelong interest in science and the establishment of educational programs along similar themes to the University of Virginia, founded by Woodward's friend, Thomas Jefferson.

Meanwhile, back where the Sauk Trail crosses the Huron River: French fur trader Gabriel Godfroy had purchased several properties from French-Americans. In 1811 and 1812 Godfroy submitted claims to 19 parcels of land to the Private Claims Commission, mostly along the River Raisin or the Lower Rouge River in the Dearborn area, with all his sales approved.

In 1814, Godfroy acquired the French Claim of Romaine La Chambre that he had submitted earlier and, in 1817, sold his own claim at Ypsilanti to Augustus B. Woodward. Godfroy's other claims were disposed of after Benjamin



Woodward Street in Ypsilanti in 2013 – The location where the Sauk Trail crossed the Huron River.

Woodruff arrived in 1823 to establish Woodruff's Grove.

In *"The Story of Ypsilanti"* published in 1923, Harvey Colburn notes, "Three shrewd and enterprising men, Judge Augustus Brevoort Woodward of Detroit, John Stewart, and William H. Harwood, with an eye toward the future, had bought the land adjacent to the (Sauk Trail at Huron River) crossing and platted it for a village, almost as soon as the road was surveyed."

"An immediate desideratum for the nicely platted but still unbuilt metropolis," noted Colburn, "was a name." Concerning this, there was some discussion in which participated not only the three proprietors, but also the people of Woodruff's Grove, who were evidently concerned with the new development. Stewart wished to call the town "Waterville," Harwood suggested

"Palmyra" and other names were proposed. The word of Judge Woodward, however, was of authority, a man of his position being naturally given deference."

In a story on Woodward in an earlier issue of the GLEANINGS, James Mann observed, "Woodward...has been rightly called a brilliant eccentric. His legal decisions are examples of judicious thinking, but this was a man who took a bath by sitting in a chair in the rain. He was also a student of the ancient Greek language, and it was he who suggested the name Ypsilanti."

Claire Shefler, in a 2007 story in GLEANINGS, reminds us that, "In 1825, the area was platted by Judge Augustus Woodward, William Harwood and John Stewart. Judge Woodward named this community, Ypsilanti, in honor of General Demetrius Ypsilanti, a brave hero in the Greek War of Independence."

Other notable projects: It has been said that Woodward was among the first to recognize the coming of the scientific age. In 1816, he published his seminal work, *"A System of Universal Science."*

With Reverend John Montieth and Father Gabriel Richard, Woodward drafted a charter for an institution he called the Catholepistemiad or the University of Michigania. On August 26, 1817 the Governor and Judges of the Michigan Territory signed the University Act into law. This institution became the University of Michigan. It was ahead of its time. No mere charter, it was a detailed blueprint for the organization of a first class university.

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One of Woodward's legacies is the *Woodward Code*, a series of statutes serving as the basis of the Territorial Supreme Court legal procedures.

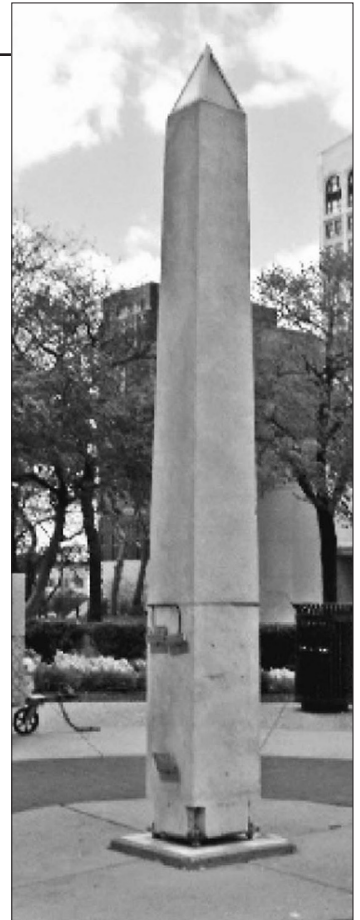
August 26, 1824 saw Woodward's return to the judiciary, as President James Monroe appointed him to a judgeship in the new Territory of Florida. Woodward served in that capacity until his death on July 12, 1827 at the age of 52.

Ypsilanti names a street for its nominator:

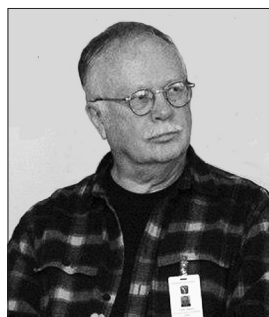
Even with his national, state, and territorial fame, Woodward was not forgotten in Ypsilanti. In her Master's thesis on naming the city's streets, Elizabeth Teabolt highlighted from the original plat of the Village of Ypsilanti (Registered April 21, 1826 in Detroit) several new street names: Steward, Huron, Hamilton, Adams, Washington, Pearl, Congress, Michigan and Woodward. Steward was actually named for Woodward and Harwood's partner, John Stewart ("probably a mistake in spelling," says Teabolt). Huron Street was named for the Native Americans, the others for Presidents, government and the state. Pearl's name remains a mystery. "And Ypsilanti has its own Woodward Street (not Avenue)," Teabolt concluded, "...named for Judge Augustus Brevoort Woodward, one of the platters of the village."

Some older readers may remember how the city sign-makers got that one wrong for a few generations, as well, calling it "Woodard," but it stands corrected in this publication.

Woodward, first Chief Justice of the Michigan Territorial Court, is remembered in Detroit at a couple of locations. First, on May 3, 1988 his Detroit law office across the street from the Renaissance Center, was dedicated and placed inside the Millender Center Atrium of the Omni Hotel at the corner of Randolph and Jefferson Streets. Another dedication to Woodward's leadership is the obelisk that stands at the southern-most corner of Grand Circus Park and Woodward Avenue, a space of his own design in the form of a "Milestone Marker."



The Woodward obelisk in Grand Circus Park in Detroit.



(At the time of his death on May 12, 2013 Tom Dodd had completed the above story for the GLEANINGS and was working on a three part PowerPoint show on Woodward covering, "The Man, The Streets, and All Those Classic Cars in the Annual Woodward Dream Cruise." The show was scheduled to make its debut at Chautauqua at the Riverside, part of the 2013 Ypsilanti Heritage Festival which will be held in August.)



Horse-Drawn carriages and streetcars cascaded up and down Woodward Avenue.



Woodward Avenue in Detroit in 1931.

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• COMING EVENTS •

July 4

Independence Day
Museum/Archives Closed

July 14 - September 1

Lost Ypsilanti Exhibit

August 16-18

Ypsilanti Heritage Festival

August 17-18

Chautauqua at the Riverside

September 8

YHS Quarterly
Membership Meeting

Where do you think you are?



*from the Fletcher-White Archives of the
Ypsilanti Historical Society*

Bits & Pieces of **YPSILANTI HISTORY**

From an 1890 panorama view looking north-east: Congress Street is now Michigan Avenue and that's Riverside Park in the upper left corner, so this is basically the site of today's still-waiting-to-be-developed Water Street project. The four-story building on the east bank of the Huron River (#45) was the mill owned by John Gilbert at one time.

See page 1 for Janice Anscheutz's initial installment on Ypsilanti's famed Gilbert family.

