

# Ypsilanti GLEANINGS

YHS Museum & Archives

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



SPRING 2024



Eleanor Meston

Beloved Teacher

Local Theater Cast and Crewmember

Devoted Sister

Expert on Education of Young Children

## Dedication

There be few whose names evoke at once love, admiration, and respect. Eleanor Meston, a classroom teacher, is one so signally distinguished. The first grade boys and girls say, "Miss Meston's wonderful". A little older grown, they add, "She's swell. She's sympathetic. She's understanding." Colleagues nod approvingly and interject, "She's a real person. She has imagination and intelligence and integrity. She has rare charm and sound judgment".

Generations of Michigan State Normal College students have known all this and more of Miss Meston. She has been to them a source of inspiration, a font of homely wisdom, a pediment of courage. She has exemplified in her gracious, purposive living Cicero's simple truth: "He who shows way to another is as one who has lighted another's lamp from his own; it none the less gives light to himself when it burns for others".

And so the 1946 AURORA is humbly dedicated to Miss Eleanor Meston. "By her good deeds ye shall know her".

Dedication statement in the 1946 Aurora.

## The Marvelous Miss Eleanor Meston

BY MARGARET PORTER

Eleanor Meston was born in 1887 in Saginaw, Michigan. A graduate of Saginaw High School, she continued her education at Columbia Teachers College where she would earn B.A. and M.A. degrees. She began teaching at Ypsilanti's Woodruff School in 1914. She then joined the faculty of the newly opened Roosevelt School in 1927 where she would teach first grade for nearly 30 years. Eleanor was a supervising or critic teacher, responsible for her first graders but also for the many student teachers who she guided and mentored over the years. The impact she had on both cannot be overstated. The 1946 Aurora, the Michigan State Normal College yearbook, was dedicated to her.

That same year I was a first grader excited about the prospect of "learning to read." Like many other children, I recognized words in my story books, but my

goal was to read the newspaper. Miss Meston was a small woman with a grandmotherly appearance, a warm laugh and the ability to make each student feel valued. She was an engaging storyteller, often the stories were about her own experiences delivered with the timing of the comedic roles she played so well. One such story was a field trip to the Water Tower on the edge of campus. She led her class of six-year olds up the circular stairs only later to realize she would also need to lead them down, a daunting task. All made it safely back to school. She would never repeat that particular trip.

I asked some classmates for their memories of first grade with Miss Meston. Ed Pear, an Ann Arbor attorney, remembers playing Santa Claus in the annual Holiday program featuring the first

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# From the PRESIDENT'S DESK

BY BILL NICKELS

Kirk Profit and Evan Milan were recently appointed members of the YHS Board of Trustees. Kirk is well known as an elected member of the Michigan House of Representatives. His understanding of local politics brings an especially useful dimension to the Board of Trustees. Evan was founding chair of the Bicentennial Commission and chair of YHS's Museum Advisory Board. Communications between the Museum Advisory Board and the Board of Trustees are improved by his presence. Both will stand for election by the membership during our October YHS Business Meeting.

Our spring Quarterly Meeting was held on March 10th at the Ladies Literary Club. It again included an opportunity for our distant members to Zoom the meeting. With varying results, we tried Zooming our Quarterly Meetings during the COVID years. The last attempt using a cell phone camera was a disaster. This time, thanks to Dennis and his mother Dorothy Norton's generous contribution to the Ladies Literary Club, equipment was installed at the Club that allowed meetings to be Zoomed. We were able to use the equipment and successfully Zoomed our March 10th meeting!

Our next Quarterly meeting is scheduled for Sunday May 19th. It will include a presentation by Chuck Bultman, owner of the Newton B & B on South Huron. While investigating the early history of his house, Chuck found artifacts that led to saving the Quirk Family's Peninsular Paper Company. Send us your email address at yhs.museum@gmail.com to make sure you get a link to view this fascinating story.

Our winter edition of our Gleanings had an article written by Charles Calcaterra about a World War II German Feldbluse (jacket). It contained a potentially valuable World War II German Iron Cross. With the medal's discovery, both the Museum Advisory Board of Trustees and Board of Trustees were put in a position to decide the medal's future. Not often formally used, our mission statement and purpose documents became our guiding lights.

## Mission Statement:

"The Ypsilanti Historical Society's mission is to instill pride in our community by inspiring the future, educating the present, and preserving the past because Ypsilanti matters."

## Pertinent Purposes:

To discover and collect materials relating to the events and history of this area, including printed matter, manuscripts, and museum materials illustrative of life, conditions, events and activities of the past and present;

To provide for the preservation and assembling of such materials and for its public display and accessibility.

It became clear, keeping the German Iron Cross is not part of our mission or purpose. Both the Museum Advisory Board and Board of Trustees voted to deaccess it. With the help of Nancy Bryk, Eastern Michigan University's Preservation Studies professor, we now have a plan. We will first have the Iron Cross authenticated by a third-party expert; assuming it is authentic, we will select appropriate parties that should have an interest in

the Iron Cross like the National World War II Museum in New Orleans; followed by a private auction. With this



The potentially valuable World War II German Iron Cross.



procedure, the medal will find a home in an appropriate venue, and we may financially benefit.

A recent Facebook post reminded me of a current Ypsilanti house that should be celebrated – the Preston Tucker house at 110 Park Street. Preston Tucker lived at 110 Park Street when he designed his 1948 Tucker Torpedo automobile. He was portrayed by Jeff Bridges in the 1988 movie titled *The Man and His Dream*. Both Apple TV and Vudu currently stream the movie. Australian Mark “Fletch” Fletcher includes a stop in front of the 110 Park Street when he brings his automotive tours to the US.

About twenty years ago, the Ypsilanti Automotive Heritage Museum (YAHM) prepared a Roadside Sign that told the Tucker story. At that time, the owners of the house (Marsh Plating) were reluctant to call public attention to their house. They planned to have the house be a part-time residence for their corporate president. YAHM respected their wish and in-

stalled the sign by the rear entrance of their museum. Use of the house as a part-time residence never materialized. The house has been empty for the last twenty or so years and is now looking neglected.

Since the house has been neglected, it is time to somehow develop a house saving plan for 110 Park Street including history telling signage. Appropriate historic signage that Marsh Plating would find acceptable could be easy to accomplish. Finding a house saving plan that Marsh Plating, the City of Ypsilanti, and the community find acceptable may be difficult but not impossible. In varying ways, house saving solutions that have satisfied all parties have been negotiated for many of Ypsilanti’s historic houses.

Our Archives contains Address Files that contain information and pictures of Ypsilanti buildings. We have Family Files that contain information and pictures of Ypsilanti families. As you do spring cleaning, keep in mind that we welcome additions to both



Preston Tucker’s home at 110 North Park Street and his Tucker 48.

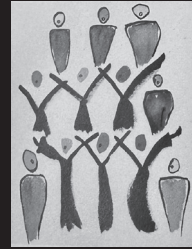
## SAVE THE DATE



## SPRING CONCERT

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### Ladies Literary Club

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Rent our historic 1842 Greek Revival Clubhouse for showers, receptions, business meetings, club meetings and family gatherings.

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Ladies Literary Club members at the time Eleanor was a member.

grade with Joyce Wales Novak as Mrs. Claus. Before the play, a North Pole display in the school lobby featured the Clauses. Ed, Joyce, Judy Morey and I recall the nesting hen and the chicks we watched peck their way out from their shells. The role she played in our education was so special that we invited her to speak at our high school graduation. I can still see her on the stage, bedecked with an orchid corsage speaking to her now grown first graders with the same warmth she had greeted us as we first started school.

Eleanor's other love, in addition to teaching, was theater. She was an early member of the Ypsilanti Players, founded by Daniel L. Quirk Jr. Her Gleanings article about the Players is a must reading for theater students as well as those interested in the cultural history of Ypsilanti. The article was reprinted in the Winter 2013 issue of the Gleanings. She was a natural comedienne and somewhat of a prankster. In one production she substituted colored water with the real thing. The actor's line was something like "Ah whiskey" only to take a swallow and sputter with surprise, likely sending Eleanor into gales of laughter. Her sense of humor and playfulness were central to her teaching as was her use of play acting with her students. She theorized that pretending could help children prepare for challenges they might face later in life.

In retirement she was an active member of the Ladies Literary Club where she became an enthusiastic participant in the Club's Drama Day. Several years ago, while a group of Club members were sorting through old scrapbooks, we came across an old clipping of a photo from Drama Day with Eleanor playing an inmate of a prison farm. This time I

was the one who dissolved in laughter.

Eleanor's warmth was most evident in her relationship with her sister Ethel. Ann Smith in a memorial tribute wrote "When I first came to Ypsilanti, I lived with the Meston sisters Eleanor and Ethel, her blind and deafened older sister. I saw sensitivity, devotion and love expressed in ways beyond description. Eleanor read from the newspaper to Ethel each evening. Ethel led a full life thanks in large part due to Eleanor. The sisters also shared a sense of humor. Ethel told a story about Eleanor coming home one evening after Ethel had gone to bed to discover she was locked out. Since Ethel had lost most of her hearing, neither the doorbell nor calling out was an option. So, the resourceful Eleanor found a pole that reached Ethel's bedroom window and roused her sister".

Eleanor was a charter member of the Ypsilanti Historical Society and active in the Ladies Literary Club. Following Ethel's death, Eleanor moved to the Gilbert Residence where she began reading the newspaper to other residents who gathered in the parlor after their evening meal. She never forgot her former students. Ed Pear recalls that as a young attorney beginning his practice in Ypsilanti he received some of his first grade artwork from Miss Meston.

She was a teacher who through her profession, and by example, impacted generations through her students, those future teachers she mentored and members of the community who were fortunate to know her.

*(Margaret Porter is an Assistant Editor of the Gleanings and has contributed many articles over the past several years.)*



# E. P. Baker of Ypsilanti's New York Gallery

— Across from the Depot BY PETER DIEHR

**E**dwin P. Baker (1829~1910), and his wife, Maria Marshall (1833-1908), were both born in New York. They married about 1852. He first appears in Ypsilanti in 1859 as a photographer. His "New York Gallery" was across from the Depot, above a store front. Today, it would be over Frenchie's at 54 East Cross Street. You can still see the train tracks! He had several partners over the years, selling his business to Jerome Stephenson in 1877. After this, the Baker's set up shop in Grand Haven and later in Detroit.

Edwin Baker as a photographer worked with all of the latest technology, including ambrotypes, which are made on glass plates, and the albumin paper process used to create the carte de visite, or CDV. My great-great grandparents, Christian Kelly (1809-1869) and Sarah Ann Steers (1812-1893) had many photographs taken at Baker's studio, some identified by the advertisements on the reverse, and others by the studio furniture and rug! There is also a very fine ambrotype, a family portrait taken for their 30th wedding anniversary in 1863. The photo album passed down through the family also contains portrait photographs of Mr. and Mrs. Baker!

The most striking photograph by Edwin P. Baker in my

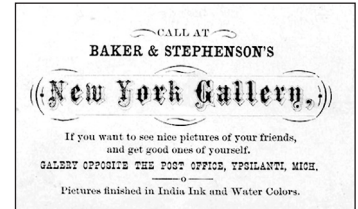


Edwin P. Baker



Maria Marshall Baker

great-great grandmother's photo album was of the returning soldiers, in front of the Barracks, in Depot Town, 30 June 1865. From that day's Detroit Free Press, front page: "The mustering out of the 24th infantry has been commenced, and will probably be concluded today. The men are being paid off, some have already received their pay and left for their homes. The others will be paid as rapidly as the work can be accomplished. Thus will be finished the history of this noble regiment, the pride and boast of Detroit, who has claimed it..."



Baker and Stephens were partners, 1873-1876. These advertisements were printed on the backs of all carte de visite photographs.

The photograph was clearly taken from above a storefront across from the Depot, the Baker's New York Gallery studio:

Enlarged copies of this photograph can be obtained, by purchase, from the Ypsilanti Historical Society. Perhaps you have a relative in this photograph? The author has at least three great grand uncles here, plus a few of the spectators!

For more information on early Michigan photographers, see Directory of Early Michigan Photographers by David V. Tinder, the William L. Clements Library, at the University of Michigan.

For more information on the pictured building, see Ypsilanti Gleanings of Winter 2009:

The Thompson Block – Then and Now!

*(Peter Diehr was raised on the Kelly family farm located at 6170 Whittaker Road. He and his family have donated many items to the Ypsilanti Historical Society.)*

Discharged Ypsilanti soldiers of the 24th Michigan Volunteer Infantry in front of the Barracks in Depot Town, 30 June, 1865. Today, this building is the Thompson Block but when it was built it was the Norris building.



Advertisement from 1863/64.







Florence Bingham Kinne – 1863-1929

Kinne House on Cross Street



## *Miss Florence Bingham Kinne* — From an Ypsilanti Doctor’s Daughter to the First Woman Teacher at Yale University

BY JANICE ANSCHUETZ

It was a happy occasion when Ypsilanti village physician Dr. Amasa Kinne’s second wife, Jane, delivered her first child on a cold winter day, January 24, 1863, in their cozy home on Cross Street. No one could have predicted that this baby girl, named Florence Bingham Kinne, would grow up to become the first female teacher at Yale University years before women were even allowed admission to this prestigious school. Today she is memorialized as part of an internet display on the Yale website which honors important women in the history of Yale. I would like to tell you how she made her journey through

education and life at a time when few women were even allowed to attend college. My research is based on Florence’s own scrapbooks, family letters, photos and other material provided to me by her great-nieces, Jane Buckwalter and Sue Demb. These materials have been donated to the Ypsilanti Historical Society archives.

Florence was a fortunate child to have been born to educated and progressive parents. Not only did they value education, but worked toward providing it for all children in and around Ypsilanti due to their stints on Ypsilanti Public Schools board of education. From their letters and life works we know that they were kind and com-

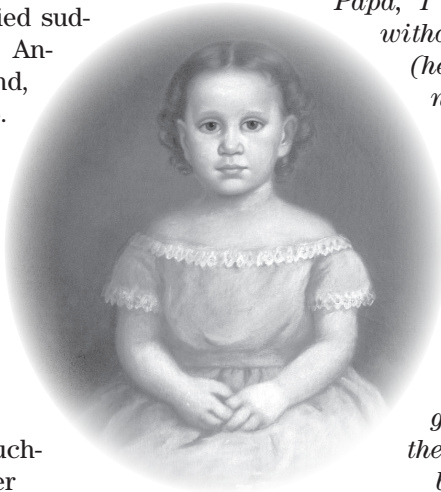
passionate as well as involved in civic duty. In several biographies such as *“The History of Washtenaw County 1881”* published by Chapman and Company, her father Amasa is given credit for having been the mayor of Ypsilanti and also serving on the school board for four terms. When he was no longer able to fulfill this duty, his wife ran for school board in 1882 and lost the election but tried again in 1883 and was elected years before women were given the “right” to vote. It was so novel an occurrence that I even found an Ohio newspaper that published the story.

Florence’s mother Jane, or Jennie as she was called, was a founding mem-



ber of the Ladies Literary Club and twice its president. She was involved in activities with the Presbyterian Church, and also with the Ypsilanti Home Association which served the poor in the small village providing clothing, food, housing and fuel to heat their dwellings. Both parents, and later their children, were crusaders in the Temperance Movement and also lifelong supporters for the emancipation of women. Meetings were sometimes held in the Kinne home which was across from the church and adjacent to the towering three-story Union School. This precocious child grew up in a harmonious home with intelligent conversation and kind and dedicated people surrounding her. As was the custom at the time, her maternal grandmother lived with them and also doted on the new baby. Soon Florence was joined by a little sister, Genevieve Bristol, on January 14, 1866, and the next year in 1877 a brother, Charles, who later died suddenly at the age of 11. Another brother, Edmund, was born in 1875. Florence also had half-siblings from her father's first wife Susan. Though the half-siblings were no longer living in her childhood home, they were frequent visitors.

Florence was a much-loved baby. In a letter Jane wrote to her husband Amasa while he



Portrait of baby Florence Kinne painted by her cousin Roccena Belinda Norris

was a volunteer physician during the Civil War and Florence was a toddler she writes:

*"These are such eventful times that it has often occurred to me to chronicle them and Doctor, that's my husband, often has said that it would be nice to have a little record of our Floy's life as scarcely a day goes by without her waking the whole house into a smile at least by some new speech or motive of her own."*

Florence's childhood summers were sometimes spent with her mother's family on a farm in Moscow, Michigan, and we can read a letter printed in very careful penmanship which she mailed to her father, who remained in Ypsilanti. The year is unknown but most likely it was written when she was eight to ten years old. It reads:

*"Moscow August 6th— My Dear Papa, I feel so lonesome without you and Rocey (her cousin Roccena Belinda Norris who became a professional woman artist) but I miss you the most. We had a nice ride on the cars. It was cool and nice. When we got to Manchester there was a brass band that got off and played quite a while. When we*



Florence Kinne holding her nephew Marshall Bartlett

*got to Jerome there was no Bill to meet us but another wagon took us along before we had gone far we met Bill and the wagon. Viva (her sister Genevieve) and I go with Bill after the cows morning and night. We all drink milk. Mama thinks it best scalded. The old white turkey hatched out two cunning little guinea hens but a cross old hen pecked one to death...bring my dolly in the green box in my bedroom. All we have to play with is two kittens and three old cats. We had a nice ride this morning. I send my love to Rocey and Dear Papa. Good-bye from Floy."*

This little girl only had to walk next door to attend primary and high school and graduated in the Ypsilanti High School class of 1882 along with only nine other students. She authored the "class essay." Not to be finished with

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Kinne Home in New Haven, Connecticut

her education, Florence attended and graduated from Michigan State Normal College which was only a few blocks away from her home, straight down Cross Street. While there she wrote for the school newspaper and studied “the classical course.” This prepared her to become a certified teacher, like her mother, and after she graduated in 1883 she moved to Romeo, Michigan to teach English and Latin in the high school. While there she carefully filled a scrapbook with programs from school plays, graduations, concerts, church events, Sunday School certificates and even collected Temperance Pledges from people who promised never to drink alcohol or smoke tobacco. Florence also taught for a while at the Thompson Private School in Romeo according to her obituary.

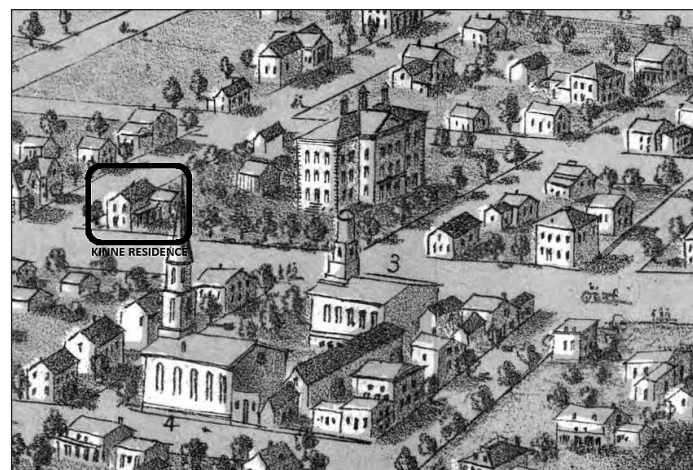
Determined to continue her education, Florence returned to college and was one of the few women in attendance at the University of Michigan. From family correspondence it seemed that though her mother encouraged her to attend, her father had some reservations about Florence being in the minority as a woman student at the male-majority school and was concerned about how she would be treated. It didn’t seem that she was welcomed there as a student. The family legend is that while in class she was forced to sit behind a screen so as not to “distract male students in her classes”. She earned a degree from the Literary Department and graduated with an A.B. Degree in 1887, the same year that her father died. Education seemed to suit Florence and by 1901 she also had to her credit a Master of Arts Degree from the University of Michigan.

By this time, Florence’s younger sister Genevieve had married Dr. Charles Bartlett, Professor of Pathology at the Yale Medical School. The young couple were soon to have several children and her widowed mother left Ypsilanti and went to live with them in New Haven, Connecticut, where Jane

home-schooled her grandchildren. Florence, missing her family, found a teaching job in Connecticut. When Charles and Genevieve built a new home, it was large enough to provide a space for both Florence and her mother to live with them. The self-assured Florence then took on the challenge of leaving the literary and language world of teaching for another completely different field – pathology.

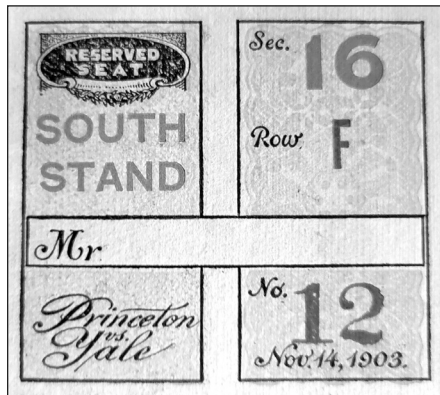
Florence was hired by Yale University as a laboratory assistant and eventually distinguished herself as being the first woman teacher at Yale University. She insisted that her name and address be published in the directory of teachers, which was very controversial at the time and created quite a stir to have a woman’s name listed in the all-male faculty directory. On the Yale University web page called “Leading Yale into the 21st Century: Notable Women” (<http://tinyurl.com/2z95vhw7>) we read “In 1905 she was hired as Yale’s first woman instructor, in the Pathology Department, with a title of laboratory assistant in pathology. Since the Yale School of Medicine did not begin admitting women until 1916, Florence Bingham Kinne would have been the only woman in nearly every space she entered during her time at Yale University.”

Included in her scrapbook is a yellowed bit of paper where she had written one of her beliefs boldly in pencil “The claim that enfranchising women will greatly improve conditions intimidates the average man makes simple justice the ground for demanding equal suffrage and the average man will accede to it upon this basis. The case is a strong one and it will win.” Her work and knowledge went beyond the pathology department at Yale as she also did work for the state of Connecticut and city of New Haven with her



Kinne House shown adjacent to the Union School from an 1868 map.





Yale vs Princeton football ticket from Nov. 12, 1903 found in the Kinne collection. (Note that the ticket was assigned to "Mr. ..." – women weren't expected to attend football games back then).

knowledge of bacteriology. Florence, according to her obituary, returned to the University of Michigan for a short time to do research.

In Florence's obituary we learn that Florence died at the home of her sister in New Haven on July 12, 1929. Her health had been failing for several months and she was no longer able to work. Members of her family came

back to Ypsilanti to the Highland Cemetery Chapel to hold one last service to honor this woman of determination and principal, before she was laid to rest with her beloved family.

I hope that you enjoyed "meeting" this honored woman from Ypsilanti and being reminded of how far women have come in terms of education and equality in the past one hundred years thanks to hard working warriors like Florence. You might be interested in reading more about the Kinne family in other articles that I have written for the Gleanings.

*Gleanings Summer 2021 - A View of Ypsilanti in the 1850s*

*Gleanings Spring 2022 - Dr. Amasa Kinne's Civil War Letters – Describing the Horrible Realities of the War*

*Gleanings Summer 2022 - The Civil War Diary of the First Woman Elected to the Ypsilanti School Board – Jennie Bristol Kinne*

*Gleanings Fall 2022 - Roccena Belinda Norris of Ypsilanti - Professional Woman Artist*

These articles are available online by going to the YHS web site (<https://ypsihistory.org>) and selecting "Ypsilanti Gleanings" located under the "Outreach" pull down tab. The Ypsilanti Historical Society archives, located in the basement of the museum, is now home to Kinne family letters, photographs and scrapbooks which are available for public view thanks to the generous gift of them by Florence's great-nieces Jane Buckwalter and Sue Demb.

*(Janice Anschuetz has lived in the historic east side of Ypsilanti for over 50 years. She is the author of the chapter "How the Historic East Side Came Back to Life" in the new book celebrating Ypsilanti's bicentennial titled "Ypsilanti Histories – A Look Back at the Past 50 Years." She is an Ypsilanti historian and a regular contributor to the Gleanings.)*



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Clara Louise Kelly & James Chalfant Moore, about 1865.



John Peter Kelly, 1865.



John Peter Kelly with his wife and drum, about 1915, in Larned, Kansas. He played his drum at all of the local county fairs.

## Three Uncles in the 24th Michigan Volunteer Infantry

BY PETER DIEHR

Three of my great-grand uncles served in the Michigan 24th Volunteer Infantry:

**T**homas Arthur Moore (1842-1920), married Abigail Eliza (“Lide”) Kelly, in 1867. He served in the 50th Pennsylvania Militia starting on June 11, 1863 and after being discharged moved to Ypsilanti, Michigan where he farmed for a while, and then enlisted in the Michigan 24th Volunteer Infantry, after which he was ordered to Springfield, Illinois to guard prisoners. He served on the military escort for President Lincoln’s burial. He and his wife lived in Grand Junction, Colorado.

**J**ames Chalfant Moore (1843-1921), married Clara Louise Kelly, in 1873. He enlisted in the Michigan 24th Volunteer Infantry toward the end of the Civil War, where he served as a musician. He also served on the military escort for President Lincoln’s burial. He and his wife lived in Ypsilanti Township, Michigan, on what is now Textile Road. Following his return from the army, James had charge of the family saw-mill for several years, and eventually became part of the Ann Arbor Agricultural Works, the firm founded by his father and brother, Eli.



Thomas Arthur Moore & Abigail Eliza “Lide” Kelly Moore, 1895, Omaha, Nebraska.

The three Kelly’s were siblings,  
children of Christian and Sarah Ann (Steers) Kelly.  
The Moore’s were cousins,  
and were both born in Pennsylvania.

*Heym* *extra* *of Finish* *Omaha, Neb.*





Thomas Arthur Moore, 1867.

**J**ohn Peter Kelly (1849-1933), married Mary Edna Haviland, in 1879. He enlisted in the Michigan 24th Volunteer Infantry towards the end of the Civil War, where he served as a musician. After a few years of marriage they moved to Larned, Kansas, where he continued to play the drum which he had learned from his father, Christian Kelly (1809-1869).

The three Kelly's were siblings, children of Christian and Sarah Ann (Steers) Kelly. The Moore's were cousins, and were both born in Pennsylvania. Another Kelly son served during the Civil War as a contract railroad laborer, employed in Northern Geor-



Abigail Eliza "Lide" Kelly, 1867.

gia by the Army of General Sherman during the early months of 1864. Benjamin Daniel Kelly (1844-1919), married Emily Ida Moore, a sister of James Chalfant, in 1869. They lived on what is now Whittaker Road, one farm farther south from his father's farm. I have a manuscript copy of a letter that Benjamin wrote to his father in May of 1864, excusing himself from having "run away to the war", and saying that he would soon return home.

*(Peter Diehr was raised on the Kelly family farm and remembers his great grandmother, Ella Youngs Kelly. His grandmother donated many items to the Ypsilanti Historical Society. Peter is a retired physicist and engineer.)*



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# Winsor McCay - Renowned Cartoonist and Animator who lived in Ypsilanti

BY ROBERT ANSCHUETZ



Winsor McCay as an Adult.

Winsor McCay is one of the true pioneers of comic strips and animation from the early 1900's. His work influenced future comic strips and animation techniques. McCay is best known for the comic strip *Little Nemo* (1905–1914, 1924–1927) and the animated film *Gertie the Dinosaur* (1914). So why is an article about Winsor McCay appearing in the *Gleanings*? Good question! The answer is because for a little over two years Ypsilanti provided a home to McCay where he took art instructions and honed his skills.

Winsor McCay's parents were Robert and Janet McKay. They were married on January 8, 1866 in Woodstock, Ontario, Canada. Later that year, they moved to Spring Lake, Michigan, and changed the spelling of their last name from McKay to McCay. Census evidence from 1870 indicates that Winsor McCay was born in Canada in 1867, perhaps on his mother's return trip to her native Canada to deliver her first baby. The exact date of his birth is unclear because McCay himself later provided contradictory dates of his birth, and no official record of his birth certificate has been found. He was born with the name Zenas Winsor McKay, named after an employer of his father, but went by the name Winsor McCay most of his life.

McCay's drawing skills emerged at an early age. According to a family story, McCay drew one of his first illustrations following a fire that hit the logging town of Spring Lake. As the fire spread to the McCay house, the family vacated the house and sheltered at a neighbor's house. There, the young McCay found a nail and etched a depiction of his own house on fire on a frosted windowpane. McCay was an obsessive artist as a child, and the level

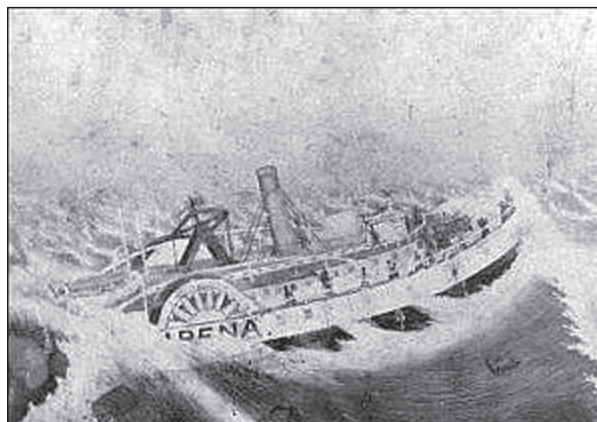
of detail in his drawings was remarkable for a child. McCay would later say, "I just couldn't stop drawing anything and everything." He was able to draw various scenes accurately

from memory alone. When he was a young child, McCay drew on the blackboard of the Spring Lake Union School a realistic chalk rendering of the steamship *Alpena* fighting a losing battle to the rough Lake Michigan waves. The teacher was impressed and showed a professional photographer the drawing. A picture was taken of his chalkboard drawing by the photographer, and the image was sold on postcards as the *Sinking of the Alpena*.

In 1886, Winsor McCay was a short-statured and thin 19-year-old. McCay's father, seeing no career which would support his son's artistic ability, sent him to Ypsilanti to attend Cleary Business College and enrolled him in Cleary's commercial program. Cleary Business College was located on Congress Street, now Michigan Avenue. McCay was accompanied to Ypsilanti with three or four friends who rented a large room together. Winsor "McCoy" is listed as a student border in the 1886 Polk City Directory of Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti, where it indicated that he lived on the southwest corner of Huron Street and Emmet Street. The house where the young students rented a room was likely at 219 N. Huron Street, directly across the street from what is now the Ypsilanti Historical Museum. McCay was called "Winnie" by his friends in Ypsilanti. The room rented on Huron Street was heated with a cast iron wood stove. In the winter, the boys kept themselves warm with wood they would pick up each evening on the way home from Cleary Business College.

Alas, business studies of type-writing, shorthand, and accounting weren't of much interest to McCay. McCay would rarely attend classes at Cleary, and instead would often catch the interurban to Detroit's Sacket &

Wiggins Wonderland, a "dime museum" that featured vaudeville acts, freak shows, jugglers, acrobats, wax figures, magicians, and fun houses - all under one roof. Wonderland was



Chalkboard drawing of the steamship *Alpena* by an 11-Year-Old Winsor McCay.





Cleary Business College on Congress Street.

located adjacent to the Detroit Opera House. McCay got a job at Wonderland drawing portraits of attendees. McCay recalled about those days, "When I was supposed to be busy with some of my studies I would skip out, catch a train for Detroit and go down to Wonderland to draw pictures."

The barker at Wonderland would draw audiences toward McCay by saying: "The time will come when the pictures this young man draws of you will be valuable and you will always want to keep them. In a few years you will not want to part with the likeness which he makes of you here today." McCay was so flattered by these words that he memorized them verbatim. He also attracted the attention and admiration from his Ypsilanti schoolmates from Cleary Business College when they visited Wonderland. McCay later re-

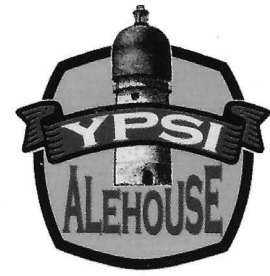
called, "They immediately sighted me and swarmed about the place where I was drawing pictures."

Wonderland provided McCay with his first steady income from his artistic talents. McCay later reminisced: "The agreement was that I should draw pictures of patrons, sell them for 25 cents each, and get half the money. I used to leave that place with my pockets bulging with money, and then I would hunt up a young telegraph operator of about my own age, who was a great friend of mine, and away we would go over to Windsor. My folks, of course, did not know that I made those runaway trips from Ypsilanti. And I didn't dare tell them for a long time."

Local author Laura Bien wrote about McCay in her book "Hidden History of Ypsilanti." In a chapter titled "Lit-



Winsor McCay cartoon and autograph from his time at Cleary Business College in Ypsilanti.



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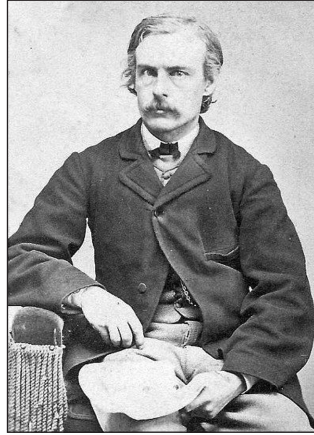
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tle Nemo in Ypsilanti,” Bien writes:

In 1888, Winsor displayed a drawing in downtown Ypsilanti. “The work of Art exhibited at the Post Office by Winsor McCay,” noted the February 10, 1888 Ypsilanti Commercial, “is a great credit to the young man’s artistic ability.” Later that year, he drew portraits at the annual city fair. “One on the Fair Ground,” reported the September 21, 1888 Commercial, “is the portrait drawing by our friend Winsor McCay, in Agricultural Hall. The crowd that assembles around this young artist is enormous. The portraits are life size, and are completed in the remarkably short time of two minutes.”

McCay never finished his business courses at Cleary. He dropped out of Cleary but remained in Ypsilanti, where his artistic talents were drawing a wider audience. Professor John Goodison, a geography and drawing instructor at Michigan State Normal School, offered to privately teach art to McCay. Professor Goodison brought under his wing a small group of art students in order to practice a new method of teaching without the confines of a formal college curriculum. McCay later said about Goodison, “With the enthusiasm of youth he gathered about him six youngsters who seemed to have a talent for drawing, the idea being ‘try it on the dogs.’ I was one of the dogs. When I had a chance to receive Goodison’s instruction I jumped at it.” He added, “Professor Goodison was a great art teacher.”

McCay never enrolled at the Normal school, and it turns out that Professor Goodison’s private instructions were the only formal art instruction that McCay ever had in his life. Professor Goodison formerly worked as a stained-glass artist, and he influenced McCay’s use of color. Professor Goodison’s lessons were practical and focused on using observation to learn to draw in geometrical perspective, which would later come to life in McCay’s Little Nemo series of comics and animated film. Through his private lessons from Professor Goodison, McCay learned how to draw quickly



Professor John Goodison of Michigan State Normal School.

and gained an appreciation for the world’s master artists. Professor Goodison used blackboard drills for observation and memory sketching which influenced McCay’s fast-paced sketching techniques on the vaudeville circuits in Detroit and later in Chicago, Cincinnati, and New York. Professor Goodison was quoted as saying about McCay, “If that young fellow doesn’t smoke too many cigarettes, the world is going to hear from him. He has absorbed all of my teaching.”

McCay’s time under tutelage with Professor Goodison would be short, as McCay decided to leave Ypsilanti for Chicago. A biography by John Canemaker, titled Winsor McCay: His Life and Art (1987), states the following:

And so McCay decided to move on. His brief time in Ypsilanti and its environs had been profitable for him in terms of self-knowledge. A career in business was out of the picture, definitely, but a life as an artist – a life his family considered a scandalous waste of time – was no longer just a dream but a real possibility. He was restless and wanted to surrender to a natural wanderlust he had only begun to explore, a nomadism that would be fully indulged during a decade on the vaudeville circuits. He wanted to try his luck in a bigger city, where a bigger audience would be waiting to appreciate his talents. He felt confident that he could survive by exploiting his drawing ability, but he was unsure where to do it outside of dime museums. John Goodison inspired him, gave him an appetite for learning, and then advised him to seek further training at the Art Institute of Chicago. In McCay’s already remarkable draftsmanship, Goodison saw a possibility for a life in art that would transcend cheap commercial exploitations of his gift. The seed of a larger dream was planted in the youth.

After leaving Ypsilanti in 1889 with a friend named Mort Touvers, McCay spent two years in Chicago. He never enrolled at the Art Institute of Chicago as suggested by Professor Goodison, and instead worked on poster artwork. In 1891, McCay moved to Cincinnati where he worked as an artist for several years, culminating with a position with The Cincinnati Enquirer where he drew illustrations for the newspaper and was named the head of the art department. His first comic strip was called The Tales of the Jungle Imps by Felix Fiddle. In Cincinnati, McCay met Maude Dufour, whom he immediately fell in love with, and



Little Nemo in Slumberland Cartoon Title Frame.



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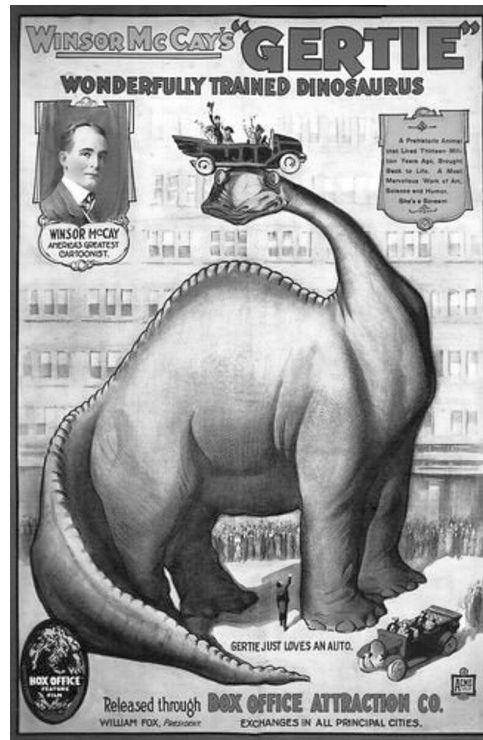
eloped with her to Convington, Kentucky where they were married. The McCay's went on to have two children, Robert Winsor (born in 1896) and Marion Elizabeth (born in 1897).

McCay was innovative in his cartoon drawing style. As an adult, McCay heavily smoked cigarettes and sported fancy business attire including a nice hat. He was noted for the speed and accuracy of his drawings, and crowds of people would come to see him paint billboards. In his cartoons, he varied the size and shape of comic strip panels for dramatic effect. Most strips, before and after, have a formulaic size and shape for their animation frames. McCay was a master of perspective, and included fantastic scenes that recalled his days at the dime museums he worked as a youngster. He drew ornate scenes and architecture within his strips. That contrasted with his crude dialog and inconsistent placement of his speech balloons within the cartoons.

In 1903, McCay departed Cincinnati for New York City, accepting a job with the New York Herald for a job drawing illustrations and editorial cartoons. He eventually left the New York Herald and signed with William Radolph Hearst's New York Journal. McCay authored several cartoons that appeared in various New York publications, including Buster Brown, Mr. Goodenough, Sister's Little Sister's Beau, Phurrious Phinish of Phoolish Philipe's Phunny Phrolics, Little Sammy Sneeze, Dream of the Rarebit Fiend, The Story of Hungry Henrietta, and A Pilgrim's Progress by Mister Bun-ion. For some of these strips, McCay used the pseudonym, "Silas."

The McCays lived a life of luxury in New York. They first lived in Manhattan, then moved out to Sheepshead Bay, a seaside resort on Long Island in Brooklyn. McCay was allowed to often work from home, but when he went into the newspaper office, he was chauffeured. His wife made daily trips by limousine to the luxurious business district in downtown Brooklyn for shopping. It seemed that as fast as the money was coming in, the money was going out.

Winsor McCay is perhaps best known for the creation of the Little Nemo in Slumberland comic strip. First published on October 15, 1905, the weekly Little Nemo strip followed the adventures of a young boy named Nemo whose nightly dreams were detailed through the comic panels. McCay's son Robert served as the model for Little Nemo. The character Little Nemo lived each night in a fantasy world during his dreams, and each strip's final panel found him waking up in



Gertie the Dinosaur Poster.

bed contemplating the adventures he just experienced.

As impressive as McCay's output of comic strips was, he would later say that he was most proud of his film animation. He completed ten animated films between 1911 and 1921. McCay's animation was inspired by flip books that his son, Robert, brought home from the corner store and shared with his father. McCay was an early pioneer in the medium of cartoon animation, ten years ahead of Walt Disney, although he was preceded in the cartoon industry by a few other pioneers. However, McCay took the art form to the next level. For his first film, Little Nemo, McCay drew four thousand drawings on rice paper. This was before the invention of clear animation cels, so the foreground, background, and all other artwork had to be redrawn for each frame. The short film Little Nemo debuted in movie theaters

on April 8, 1911. Four days later, McCay began using the film as part of his vaudeville act. He later hand-colored each of the frames of the original black-and-white animations. In 1912, McCay completed his second animated film, How a Mosquito Operates, which shows a man asleep in bed trying to defend himself against a giant mosquito that drinks so much blood from the man that the mosquito eventually explodes.

McCay's next major creation was the animated film Gertie the Dinosaur. One of the earliest examples of a cute personified main character starring in an animated film, Gertie the Dinosaur, featured many techniques later adapted by other animators. McCay used separate foreground and background animation that was later tied together to create the completed film. This successful technique soon became the standard for the burgeoning animation industry. Gertie the Dinosaur debuted in February 1914 as part of McCay's vaudeville act where he would interact in real time with his animated film. On stage, McCay introduced Gertie as "the only dinosaur in captivity", and proceeded to interact with the animated dinosaur with a whip. The animated Gertie came onto the scene, ate a boulder and a tree, and proceeded to obey McCay onscreen. Gertie bowed before the audience, raised her right leg, raised her left leg, acted up a little, and McCay scolded the on-screen Gertie. He then consoled Gertie by simulating throwing a pumpkin toward her on the film screen, while a cartoon pumpkin simultaneously appeared on screen. In the finale, McCay walked offstage and reappeared in animated form in the film, and Gertie carried him away while he rode on her back. All of these techniques



were decades ahead of their time, the audiences loved it, and the animation techniques caught the eye of the cartoon and animation world. You can view Gertie the Dinosaur and other Winsor McCay cartoons by searching for “Winsor McCay” on YouTube (Gertie the Dinosaur can be viewed here: <http://tinyurl.com/34ksmhtm>).

While devoting hours upon hours of time toward film animation, McCay's daytime employer, William Randolph Hearst, became ever more disappointed with the quality of McCay's newspaper work. After an occurrence where Hearst couldn't reach McCay while he was entertaining at a vaudeville performance, Hearst pulled the theater's advertisements from his newspapers. Hearst pressured McCay into signing a contract that limited his vaudeville performances to the New York City area. By 1917, Hearst had McCay give up entirely on vaudeville, and had him report daily to his office in New York City to focus on cartoon editorials for the newspaper.

Although he gave up his vaudeville career for Hearst, he didn't give up his animation productions. His next film was a self-financed endeavor called *The Sinking of the Lusitania*, which took nearly two years to complete. The film depicted the actual voyage and sinking of the *Lusitania* passenger steamship in 1915 while Germany was at war with Great Britain. In total, 25,000 drawings were made on cellulose acetate cels, which allowed one or more layers to be superimposed on top of a static background layer. By 1921, McCay had completed six additional animated films, including *The Centaurs*, *Flip's Circus*, *Gertie on Tour*, *Bug Vaudeville*, *The Pet*, and *The Flying House*.

Just as William Randolph Hearst forced McCay out of vaudeville, he also tried to force him out of film animation altogether. Hearst had learned that McCay was devoting more of his time to animation than to his newspaper illustrations, and he insisted that



McCay's "Ode to Ypsilanti in the Auld Lang Syne" - Printed in the February 10, 1907 New York Herald.

McCay focus on the newspaper side of the business. McCay left Hearst after his contract expired in 1924. McCay went back to *The Herald Tribune* and brought the *Little Nemo* comic strip back in 1924. It lasted until January 1927, but wasn't nearly as successful as it was the first time in publication. In fact, after conclusion of the strip, *The Herald Tribune* signed over all copyrights to the comic strip to McCay for one dollar.

McCay became more and more disillusioned with the state of contemporary animation in the early part of the 20th century. At a 1927 dinner in his honor attended by many contemporary animators, he stated: "Animation is an art. That is how I conceived it. But as I see, what you fellows have done with it, is making it into a trade. Not an art, but a trade. Bad Luck!" McCay continued to do newspaper drawings and editorials up until the end of his life. He died on July 26, 1934, and was buried in Brooklyn.

McCay's son, Robert McCay, followed

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in his father's footsteps as an artist. In 1935, Robert McCay signed with King Features Syndicate to create Nemo in Adventureland, which featured grown-up characters from the Little Nemo series. Nemo in Adventureland ran until 1936. In 1937, Robert McCay attempted to revive a daily Little Nemo strip in the newspaper, attributed to Winsor McCay, Jr. However, the revamping of the strip was short-lived. Robert McCay worked for a short time at the Hearst-owned papers, and tried unsuccessfully to get a job at the Disney studios during World War II. Walt Disney gently turned him down explaining that Disney Animation was struggling during the war and not hiring. Robert McCay eventually found a job as an illustrator for Army training aids in California.

Walt Disney recognized Winsor McCay's historic contributions to the animation industry in a 1955 Disneyland television episode "The Story of Animated Drawing." The episode highlighted the history of animation, and re-created McCay's vaudeville act with Gertie, with a voice actor bringing the scripted words of McCay to the screen. Robert McCay visited the Disney Studios as a consultant for the segment about Winsor McCay and Gertie. When Robert McCay walked into Walt Disney's office, Disney gestured out the window toward his studio complex and said, 'Bob, all this should be your father's.' When Disney's Hollywood Studios theme park opened in Orlando, Florida, they thought enough of Winsor McCay to build a life-sized Gertie the dinosaur which functions as an ice cream shop. In front of Dinosaur Gertie's Ice Cream of Extinction is a sign that reads:

Dinosaur Gertie's Ice Cream of Extinction was built as a tribute to "Gertie the Dinosaur," one of the first well-known animated cartoon stars. Gertie first amazed vaudeville audiences in 1914 when she was projected life-size onto a screen and shared the stage with her creator, Winsor McCay. The themed style of the building is known as "California Crazy" architecture. It became popular in the 1930's and was designed to attract the attention of potential customers in a big way.

Chuck Jones, the director of Warner Brothers cartoon shorts such as Bugs Bunny and Porky Pig provided an extremely complimentary quote about the legacy of Winsor McCay by saying: "After McCay's animation it



The author Robert Anschuetz and his wife Debbi in front of a life-sized Gertie Ice Cream Shop at Disney's Hollywood Studios Theme Park in Orlando, Florida.

took his followers nearly twenty years to find out how he did it. The two most important people in animation are Winsor McCay and Walt Disney, and I'm not sure which should go first."

McCay's original artwork has been poorly preserved. Most of his original newspaper comics were returned to McCay, but a large portion of those drawings were destroyed in a fire in the late 1930's. Robert McCay held most of the remaining drawings in his custody, but later sold off a portion of the artwork to raise cash. Many of the original cans of animated film cels were destroyed to create storage space. Also, most of the film was photographed with nitrate film which decomposed quickly. Much of McCay's original drawings still reside with the family, while a portion is preserved at the Cartoon Library and Museum at Ohio State University and the Cinémathèque museum in Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

Winsor McCay's influence extends to the modern time as well. A full-length feature film was developed in the Japanese anime style titled Little Nemo: Adventures in Slumberland, which was released in Japan in 1989 and the United States in 1992. There have also been video games produced with the Little Nemo characters, including the Capcom arcade game Nemo (1990) and the Nintendo Entertainment System home video game Little Nemo: The Dream Master (1990). There are also upcoming Steam and Nintendo Switch home video games titled Little Nemo and the Guardians of Slumberland and Little Nemo and the Nightmare Fiends, which will reintroduce audiences to the artwork of Winsor McCay later this year.

Winsor McCay's was an early pioneer of comic strips and cartoon animation. No doubt he was born with natural ability, but the impact of a short two year stay in Ypsilanti in his formative years is undeniable. Winsor McCay's art lessons by Michigan State Normal School Professor John Goodison led him down a path of geometric perspective and color that characterized so much of McCay's artwork and animation that is still admired and studied to this current time. McCay looked back at his days in Ypsilanti with fondness as evidenced by a self-portrait cartoon that appeared in the February 10, 1907 New York Herald. The cartoon showed himself in a spiffy checkered three-piece suit, holding a bowler hat and smoking a cigarette in his mouth. The caption to the cartoon said "Silas' in his infancy. A picture of myself as I appeared at school in Ypsilanti in the days of Auld Lang Syne. Tan shoes had not been invented – then, neither had the loud vest." Ypsilanti definitely shaped the young Winsor McCay of "Auld Lang Syne" and gave him the confidence to go out into the world and become a pioneer in comics and animation.

*(Robert Anschuetz grew up in Ypsilanti in the historic Swaine house at the corner of Forest Ave. and River St. He is a member of the 2023-2024 cohort of the YpsiWrites organization and a regular contributor to the Gleanings.)*



# Archives Intern Report

BY CONNOR K. ASHLEY

Our evenings are filled with more sunshine these days which means Spring is progressing forward. Things are also progressing here in the Ypsilanti Historical Society's Rudisill-Fletcher-White Archives.

Our most noteworthy initiative right now is a grant writing initiative I am spearheading for a graduate historic preservation course at Eastern Michigan University that aims to get funding for the digitization of our collection of physical newspapers. The Rudisill-Fletcher-White Archives has a collection of several thousand physical newspapers, many of which are most likely the only physical copies of these newspapers cataloged and stored in an archival storage space like the Ypsilanti Historical Society. There are institutions like the University of Michigan's Bentley Historical Library and the Library of Michigan in Lansing that have copies of several of these newspapers like the Daily Telegram, Evening Times, Ypsilantian, and the Ypsilanti Sentinel-Commercial on microfilm, but we are the only institution we know of that has a majority of their issues in their original physical form. Our goal is to have many of these newspapers digitized from these original copies in color and made available to the public for free both on our website

and on the Internet Archive. As you can imagine, many of these newspapers are now over a hundred years old and will require best archival practice to safely transport and digitize these materials. More information about this grant will come in the near future.

I have taken the opportunity in these Archives Intern Reports to thank many of our volunteers for their hard work keeping things like our online photo archives and our presence on the Internet Archive going strong. I would like to take this opportunity now to thank the man whose name is on the place for his hard work in providing me counsel in this position and for guiding the *Ypsilanti Gleanings* for many dutiful years. Al Rudisill has been a force in the Ypsilanti Historical Society and in the Ypsilanti community for decades. This building that houses the Museum & Archives, the Historic 1860 Dow House, and this archival collection would be in a very different state if not for the vision of Al. We here who hold Ypsilanti dear should not forget the important contributions people like Al Rudisill provide when they volunteer their talents in the community for the better. Thank you, Al for all the hard work you do and have done for YHS and Ypsilanti!



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# Origins of Ypsilanti Street Names

BY ROBERT ANSCHUETZ

Elizabeth Teaboldt was born June 25, 1878, in Bridge-water Township, the daughter of George and Ella King Rawson. She taught in the Clinton and Ypsilanti school districts for many years. The "History of the Naming of the Streets of Ypsilanti" was Elizabeth's 1940's Master's Thesis while attending Michigan State Normal College. Not only did her thesis provide an amazing catalog about the origins of Ypsilanti street names, but it also provided a chronological history of the plat developments that formed the growing city of Ypsilanti.

Elizabeth's Ypsilanti Street research was submitted to the Ypsilanti Historical Society's Archives in September, 1947 as a permanent part of the history of Ypsilanti. Elizabeth's Master's Thesis was later published in Ypsilanti Gleanings in three parts. Part I appeared in the issue of December 1980, Part II in the issue of February 1981, and Part III in the issue of April 1981. This article highlights the street names only and leaves out the history of the plat development of the city. Elizabeth Teaboldt lived a long life, passing away in Ann Arbor on August 25, 1972.

The streets in Ypsilanti grew in number as the city grew in size. With each new plat of land added to the city boundaries, streets had to be created and named. Typically, the developer or property owner of each new addition would be responsible for providing the street names. Names would sometimes come from the developer's family first, middle, or last names (Davis, Charles, Shutts, etc.). Other times they would be named after famous people (Hamilton, Washington, Hiawatha, etc.). Some streets were named after natural features in the area (River, Forest, Hill, Spring, etc.).

Many roads had name-changes over the years for a variety of reasons. One interesting change avoided a lot of confusion. In the 1859 map of the city of Ypsilanti, there were three Mill Streets on the east side of Ypsilanti within a mile of each other. All three Mill Streets were named because the streets either ran alongside or terminated at a mill. The

problem was that there were many mills in the city of Ypsilanti at that time, so there ended up being at least three Mill Streets. One of the Mill Streets was later renamed Forest Avenue. The second Mill Street became Maple Street. The third Mill Street became Park Street.

Here is an alphabetical listing of the origin of many of the streets in Ypsilanti, as researched by Elizabeth Teaboldt. Note that the suffixes of Street, Road, Drive, Boulevard, Avenue and Court may have been changed over the years, and in the early days of Ypsilanti the suffix was often omitted from maps.

**Adams Street** is named after President John Adams.

**Ainsworth Boulevard** (also Ainsworth Drive, Ainsworth Lane, and Ainsworth Place) was derived from O. A. Ainsworth who came here in 1868. He was the proprietor of a large dairy herd on his farm just west of Ypsilanti on present Washtenaw Avenue. Ainsworth Place was later renamed to Middle Drive.

**Ann Arbor Road** was the name given to that part of present Washtenaw Avenue. Ann Arbor Street appears on at least two early plats for what is now West Forest Avenue.

**Ann Street** was probably named for Mrs. William Jarvis, Sr., maiden name Ann Watson.

**Anna Avenue** was named for the mother of the proprietor of the land on which it ran, Richard L. Owen. Her name was Anna Foots Owen, daughter of Professor E. M. Foote of Eastern Michigan University.

**Arcadia Street** is now called Arcade Street and is opened through Adams Street.

**Armstrong Drive** and **Armstrong Court** were named by the City Council in 1944 in honor of Mr. Samuel Armstrong, who died January 7, 1940, and who worked for the city for many, many years.



Ypsilanti Area Streets.





Ypsilanti Eastside Streets from an 1859 Map.

**Arnet Street** was named for Mr. Vincent Arnet, one of the proprietors of the subdivision.

**Ashland Street** was named because ash trees grew abundantly on a portion of the land.

**Babbitt Street** was named by the City Council June 1, 1866 in honor of Dr. John Winthrop Babbitt, father of Judge John Willard Babbitt.

**Ballard Street** was named for Arden H. Ballard.

**Bell Street** was formed as a combination of West Street and the alley leading to Monroe Road.

**Belleville-Tyler Road** leads toward Belleville.

**Brower Street** was named for Richard D. Brower who owned land near to the present location of Eastern Michigan University. Brower Street south of Ellis became College Place.

**Buffalo Street** may have been named for Buffalo, New York.

**Cambridge Street** was both named for a street in Ann Arbor and a name

of a college as were many other streets near the college.

**Carver Street** was named to honor George Washington Carver, an African-American scientist.

**Catherine Street** is named for Catherine Tice Larzelere, the wife of Abraham Larzelere.

**Cemetery Street** was the name that present Prospect Road was called northward from the Michigan Central Railroad bridge. One of the largest cemeteries in Ypsilanti is located where Prospect Park now resides, before they moved the graves to Highland Cemetery when it opened. The City Council changed the name from Cemetery to Prospect on December 25, 1874.

**Center Street** was so-named because it extended from north to south across the center of the plat in which it was located.

**Charles Street** was probably named for one of the platters of the subdivision it runs through, Charles Holmes.

**Cherry Court** was named because a few cherry trees were growing there.

**Chicago Turnpike** was a portion of the early road from Detroit to Chicago, the survey for which passed through Ypsilanti in the summer of 1825. It eventually became a part of Michigan Avenue.

**Chidister Street** was named for James M. Chidister. He was a businessman and also alderman from the first ward in 1858.

**Clark Street** may have been named for Benjamin Clark, Village Treasurer in 1858 from the 5th ward, where this addition lay.

**College Place** used to be Brower Street and was named after the name of the plat adjacent to the Normal School.

**Congress Street** was named for the United States Congress.

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**Cornell Road** used to be called Virginia Road until the name was changed by the Council on April 15, 1929. Cornell Road is named after a college.

**Cross Street** was named for the Cross family, headed by the father Jason Cross.

**Davis Avenue** was named for Dr. Parmenio Davis, for whom the Davis Subdivision was named.

**Division Street** divided the Bartholomew plat into two nearly equal parts.

**Driscoll Court** is named for Mr. S. E. Driscoll who owned the property.

**Dwight Street** was named for the owner of the property, Dwight Peck.

**East Street** was at the east side of a plat and became Bell Street.

**Ecorse Road**, for a short distance, in making the turn from Michigan Avenue to Emerick, lies within the city limits. It is named as it is because it is the leading road to Ecorse.

**Ellis Street** was named for Elijah Ellis and became part of Washtenaw Avenue.

**Elm Street** was named for a variety of tree prominent in the area.

**Emerick Street** is named for the family of the same name who came to Michigan in 1832 and settled in Ypsilanti Township. The street is probably named in particular for Benjamin Emerick, one of the sons who came with the father Jacob.

**Emmett Street** may have been named for Robert Emmett, famous in Congress at the time, or maybe the middle name of Richard E. Morse, one of the platters of this addition.

**Factory Street** was once known as Hunter Street, after the platter, but was changed to Factory in 1862 by act of the City Council. The street later became a part of Spring Street.

**Fairview Circle** was named for the semi-circular drive, and the fact that the land drops down toward the north.

**Farmer Street** was given to the north and south alley extending from Parsons to South Street. It was probably named for John Farmer who drew the original Plat of Ypsilanti.

**Ferrier Street** is an opening south of the railroad tracks running west to River Street and almost in alignment with High Street to the east. It was named in honor of Philo Ferrier, an alderman from the 4th Ward in 1858. He was prominent in business also.

**Ferris Street** was named in honor of former Governor Ferris who served two terms in 1911 and 1913. The previous name, Michigan Street, was discontinued June 5, 1916 by act of the City Council to avoid confusion with Michigan Avenue.

**First Avenue** was so named because it was the first long street, the one reached in going up the Harriet Street hill. **First Court** runs eastward from First Avenue and is surrounded by Armstrong Drive.

**Florence Street** was probably named for Florence Babbitt.

**Follett Street** extended east from Water Street, was named for Nathan Follett one of the platters, father of Benjamin Follett, banker and business man.

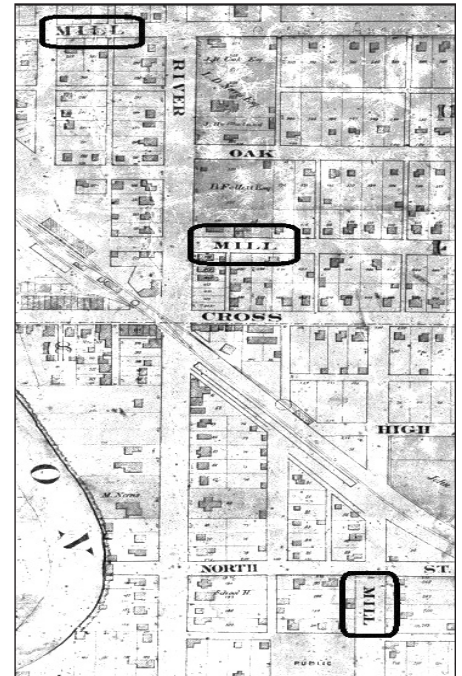
**Ford Street** was named for Henry Ford.

**Forest Avenue** was previously called Mill Road until the name was changed by the City Council on June 30, 1860. Forest Avenue was on the edge of Ypsilanti and like most of the land here was forested.

**Franklin Street** was named for Franklin Worden, owner of the property.

**Frederick Street** is probably named for Frederick Hawkins, son of Abiel Hawkins.

**Furnace Street** was named for the Furnace property on land deeded by Mark Norris to Alanson W. Hurd, November 5, 1834.



Three Mill Streets from an 1859 Map.

**Garland Avenue** was a personal choice of the developer.

**Gordon Avenue** was named for the maiden name of Mrs. Sink, wife of Mr. Sink who was financially interested in the Ypsi-Ann Land Company which developed the Prospect Park Neighborhood.

**Grant Street** was named for a Civil War Army Officer and President, Ulisses S. Grant.

**Grove Street** led to "The Grove", established by Benjamin Woodruff in 1823 outside of what was then Ypsilanti.

**Hamilton Street** was probably named for President Alexander Hamilton.

**Harriet Street** is named for Harriet W. Larzelere, widow of John Y. Larzelere. No children are mentioned in the will of Mr. Larzelere and Harriet inherited the property.

**Harris Street** appears on one early map, not a plat, for an alley.

**Hawkins Street** is named for the Hawkins family. The Hawkins House hotel was continued a long time under the management of Abiel Hawkins



and Walter, his son.

Helen Street origins are unknown.

**Hemphill Road** was named for Robert W. Hemphill, farmer, business man and banker. He once owned the farm, later owned by Mr. Beyer who donated it to Beyer hospital.

**Hiawatha Street** is not much more than an alley extending south from West Cross to Sherman, probably named for Longfellow's character based loosely on an actual historical figure in Michigan.

**High Street** runs from east to west on the north line of the J. Gilbert property on which the "Gilbert House" stands today. The street makes an ascent from the railroad tracks eastward, hence the name.

**Hill Road** was named because there was a hill on the street. In the petition to the City Council, June 1860, to change Hill Road to Forest Avenue east of the river.

**Hillside Court** was a court on the side of the hill.

**Holmes Road** was named for Edgar D. Holmes, father of Mr. Harvey C. Holmes, the city clerk. The family came about 1873 and owned the farm adjoining until 1919.

**Hunter Street** was named after the platter, but was changed to Factory Street in 1862 by act of the City Council.

**Huron Street** was named for the river beside which it extends.

**Jarvis Street** is named for the Jarvis family, mentioned in connection with the Jarvis addition.

**Jefferson Street** is named for President Thomas Jefferson.

**Jeness Street** is named for the Jeness family, which like many other families came early and became prominent. An early ancestor was John Sedgwick Jeness, born in 1811, one of the first grocery and crockery dealers in Ypsilanti.

**Kingswood Street** was named for a Mr. King living upon the property.

**Lincoln Street** was the name of the alley running from north to south through the northern half of the plat. It was named Lincoln Street by the Council, December 17, 1866, for the late president.

**Linden Place** was named just because the name appealed to the platters, likely named after a type of tree.

**Locust Street** no longer exists. November 28, 1859, an order was given by the City Council to open Locust Street from Congress to Chicago Road. However, Locust was not quite in alignment with Normal Street to the north, so an order was given to open Normal Street to Chicago Road and close Locust. The street was named after a type of tree.

**Lowell Street** was undoubtedly named for the settlement called Lowell which was located a few miles up the river.

**Madison Street** is named for President James Madison.

**Mansfield Street** was named for Charles W. Mansfield who had a farm in that area. Mansfield had no children and this was a way to keep his name alive.

**Maple Court** is the name of the alley open between Oak and Maple in the 200 block east.

**Maple Street** was the name given to the former Mill Street by act of the City Council June 17, 1889. It had, and still has, many maple trees.

**Martin Street** was named for two of the platters, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Martin.

**Maus Avenue** was named for Lewis J. Maus who bought land on the street.

**Michigan Avenue** was named for the Territory of Michigan, and was formerly called Congress Street.

**Michigan Street** was named for the Territory of Michigan. It later became

## Historic Depot Town



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**Ferris Street.** Walter Pitkin, who wrote the book "Life Begins at 40" grew up on this street.

**Middle Drive** was formerly called Ainsworth Place, named for the O.A. Ainsworth family.

**Mildred Street** is named for the daughter of Mr. Vincent Arnet, one of the proprietors.

**Miles Street** is named for the Miles family. Lorin C. Miles was a lawyer here in 1845. He is recorded in the Ypsilanti Village in 1843.

**Mill Road** was the name of present East Forest Avenue. A mill was built at the western end at the river. The name was changed by the City Council June 30, 1860.

**Mill Street** extended from west to east across the plat just east of the river, and the name was a testimony concerning the number of mills. This street was changed to Maple Street by act of the City Council June 17, 1889.

**Mill Street** became Park Street in a change made by the City Council December 3, 1864.

**Monroe Road** was so named because it was the road leading to Monroe. It is now South Huron Street within the city. The street was named for President James Monroe.

**Morse Street** appeared where Second Avenue now is. The name Morse was named for the platter Stephen B. Morse. It was changed to Second Avenue to conform to the naming convention of First Avenue, lying to the east.

**Ninde Street** was an alley that extended through the plat from north to south, the name being given by the City Council in 1864. It was named for Judge Thomas Ninde who was city attorney when Ypsilanti became incorporated as a city in 1858. He was mayor in 1878. His home adjoined the street.

**Normal Street** was named for the Normal School, now Eastern Michi-

gan University, which was dedicated October 5, 1852.

**Norris Street** was named for Mark Norris, one of the proprietors of the plat.

**North Street** extended north from the river. This fact probably accounted for its name. It is now closed.

**Oak Street** was named for the large number of oak trees on the street.

**Oakwood Street** was named for the type of trees on the street.

**Olive Street** may have been named for Olive Gorton, who was the first teacher on the west side of the river.

**Orchard Street** was named for a peach orchard that occupied the area.

**Owendale Avenue,** was named for the proprietor, Richard L. Owen, son of Tubal Cain Owen.

**Oxford Street** was named for a street in Ann Arbor and a name of a college.

**Park Street** was formerly called Mill Street. It was named by the City Council December 3, 1864. It passed just east of the city park known as Gilbert Park.

**Parsons Street** runs along the southern edge of the East Public Square. It was named for Samuel Parsons, an early business man.

**Pearl Street** origins are unknown.

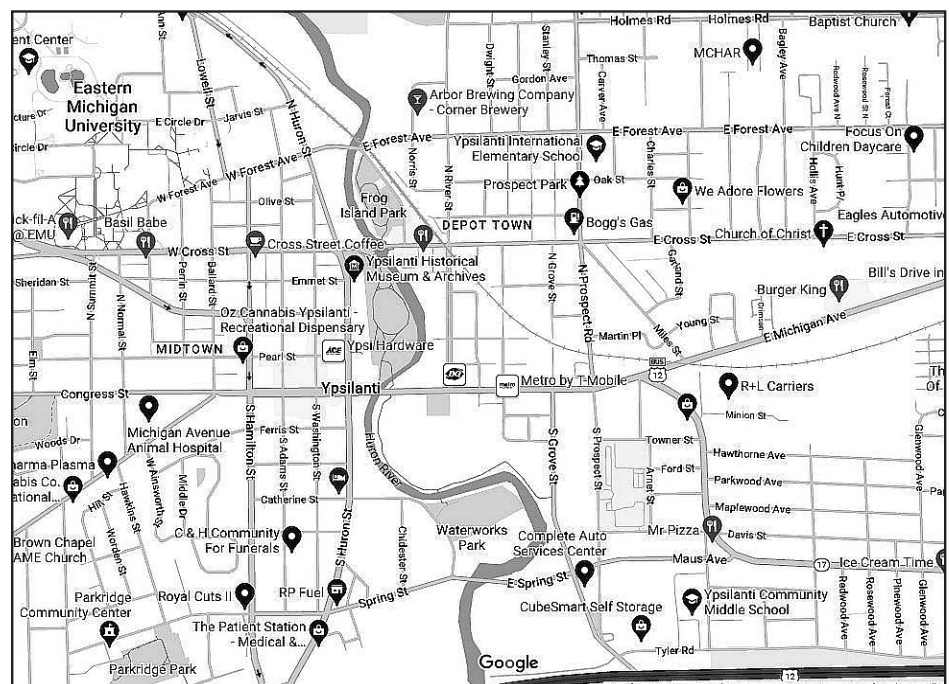
**Pearson Street** was the name bestowed upon this alley, March 17, 1873, by the City Council, in honor of Albert H. Pearson who had a residence at number 8 on this street.

**Perrin Street** was formerly known as Stuck Street, with the name changed by the City Council June 1863. The origin of the name is not clear. A Reverend Oliver Perrin came from Manchester, Michigan and lived here many years.

**Perry Street** was named for Mr. George Perry who worked for thirty-five years for Mr. Everett Wiard, the proprietor.

**Pleasant Drive** used to be called Woods Road until March 16, 1931 by petition to the City Council.

**Prospect Road** was formerly called Cemetery Street. It was named because of it being the survey road. The City Council changed the name from



Ypsilanti Westside Streets.



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Cemetery to Prospect December 25, 1874. Prospect Court opens to all of the streets on the east, south and west, and is named for the one on the east, Prospect Road.

**Race Street** was derived from an early constructed race or ditch that was dug to bring the Huron river waters more directly to the mill.

**Railroad Street** is just east of the railroad tracks.

**Rice Street** may have been named for Asa Rice came here in 1826.

**River Street** was the street running from north to south, and located nearest to the Huron River.

**Roosevelt Boulevard** was named for Theodore Roosevelt.

**Second Avenue** is adjacent to First Street.

**Sheridan Street** was named for a Civil War Army Officer, Phillip Henry Sheridan. Sheridan Court appears today on the city map as the first street south of Cross, extending less than a block eastward from Wallace.

**Sherman Street** was named for a Civil War Army Officer, William Tecumseh Sherman.

**Short Street** was named because it was short in duration.

**Shutts Street** is undoubtedly named for Mr. M. L. Shutts one of the proprietors, and grandfather of Dr. E. S. George. The street no longer appears.

**South Street** was one block south of the East Public Square.

**Spring Street** is named because natural springs are said to have been common along the bank.

**St. John Street** was so named because it led westward to a Catholic cemetery named St. John which was also the name of the Catholic Church here.

**Stanley Road** was named for Dr. Stanley of the Eastern Michigan Uni-

versity School of Music. He was an associate and friend of Mr. Sink, one of the proprietors.

**Steward Street** is in all probability a mistake in spelling of the name Stewart.

**Stewart Street** perhaps is named for the old Stewart family of early pioneer days.

**Stuck Street** was named for the platters Charles Stuck and wife Hannah Stuck. Stuck Street is named Perrin Street today, having been named by the City Council June 1863.

**Summit Street** runs along the crest of the valley, occupied now by the comparatively small Huron River. The summit of the valley had been reached.

**Third Avenue** was one of three streets named in order adjacent to First and Second. It now appears to have been renamed to Hart Place.

**Thomas Street** was named for the Thomas family who came here in 1916, and purchased a 16-acre tract in the area.

**Towner Street** was after Mr. Norman Kellogg Towner. Mr. Towner did not live in this area, but was a friend of Dr. Davis who platted the land.

**Vinewood Court** was a personal choice of the developer, probably named for wild grapevines.

**Virginia Place** has no known origin, but was probably named for the state of Virginia.

**Virginia Road** was changed to Cornell Road by the Council April 15 1929 to avoid confusion with Virginia Place in the Gray Subdivision and Cornell is the name of a college. Virginia Road was named for the state of Virginia.

**Vought Street** was named for Samuel Manning Vought, one of the proprietors.

**Wallace Street** was named for land was owned by Captain James N. Wal-

lace, who platted it at this time and built a number of houses. He was a captain in the Civil War.

**Water Street** appears in this plat extending south from Congress Street, following close to the eastern side of the river for a very short distance. The land is low there and the street probably covered frequently with water in time of high water.

**Watling Boulevard** is named for William Watling who owned property nearby.

**West Street** was probably named because of its geographic location. West Street and the alley leading to Monroe Road became Bell Street.

**Westmoorland Street** was named by the late Mrs. Breakey, mother of Judge Breakey. She was one of the proprietors. Judge Breakey says his mother had recently returned from visiting her sister, who lived on Westmoreland in Los Angeles and that she liked the name.

**Whittier Road** was named for the poet John Greenleaf Whittier.

**Winona Street** was chosen just because the developers liked it.

**Woods Road** is located in the Woods Subdivision and therefore the street names are so called because Mrs. Gill, mother of Mr. Orlo Gill, kept a nursery here before the land was sold and platted.

**Woodward Street** was named for Judge Augustus Brevoort Woodward, one of the platters of the village.

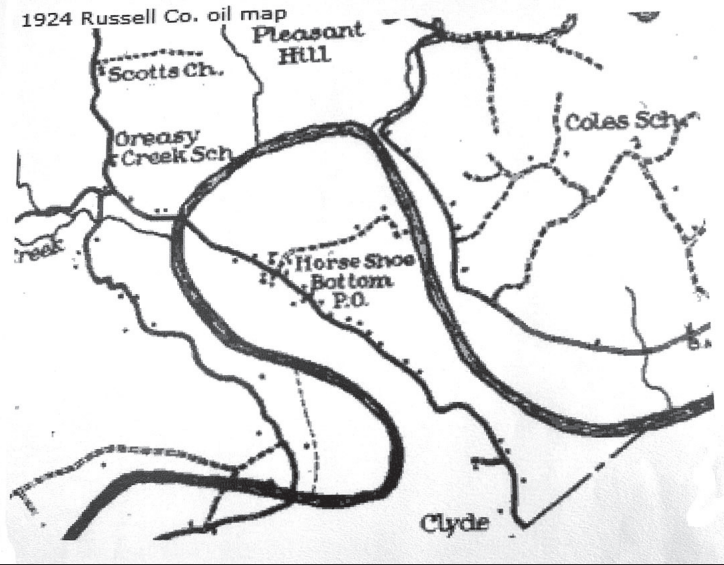
**Worden Street** was named for Franklin Worden, owner of the property.

**Youngs Street** is named for Bert and Effa E. Youngs. Mr. Young's grandfather took up land from the government on what is now Tuttle Hill Road.

*(Robert Anschuetz grew up in Ypsilanti in the historic Swaine house at the corner of Forest Ave. and River St. He is a member of the 2023-2024 cohort of the YpsiWrites organization and a regular contributor to the Gleanings.)*



Major Byron Cutcheon.



Cumberland River's Horseshoe Bend.

## In Search of Some Ypsilanti History

BY BILL NICKELS

Our museum's Ypsilanti Room honors two local Medal of Honor recipients, Major Charles Kettles for his heroic efforts during the Vietnam War and Major Byron Cutcheon for a battle at Horseshoe Bend, Kentucky during the Civil War. The circumstance of Charles Kettles' bravery is well known, much less was known about Byron Cutcheon's.

While returning from a fall trip down south, I decided to take a side trip and investigate Horseshoe Bend, Kentucky. I learned that Horseshoe Bend is a bend in the Cumberland River near the town of Monticello, Kentucky; eighteen miles north of the Tennessee border and about halfway between I-75 and I-65. Learning that Monticello has a historical museum that is open daily, I decided to visit the museum and see what I could learn.

Arriving at the museum when it opened, I was told I had chosen the right day to visit because volunteer David Smith was available and would be able to help me. David explained to me that the Confederates declared that the Cumberland River was the border between the Union and the Confederate States of America. As such, there continually were skirmishes between Confederate and Union troops. I knew the battle at Horseshoe Bend was on May 10, 1863, the day after a battle at nearby Alcorn's Distillery. Apologizing for not knowing more about the Horseshoe Bend battle, he suggested I might want to visit Calvin Kennett, a retired history teacher who operated a local antique shop. David explained that Calvin's family went back six generations and operated Alcorn's Distillery during the Civil War. He said Calvin would likely be able to share some family oral history. Getting directions, I left the museum and drove over to Calvin's antique shop.

I found Calvin seated with a group of men enjoying a warm early fall morning. I explained who I was, why I was investi-

gating Horseshoe Bend, and David's suggestion that Calvin might be able to share some oral history with me. Calvin indicated that oral history is about all that is known about that battle. Appearing to distrust me, he avoided sharing.

Freeman Padgett, one of the men enjoying the fall morning, mentioned that he regularly camps and goes hunting at Horseshoe Bend. In addition, his wife's family is from Horseshoe Bend. Getting nowhere with Calvin, I decided to ask Freeman if he would take me up there. Having "nothing else to do," he said he would. I followed him out-of-town on a state route. We turned off on a county road, the county road ended and we entered private property, the private property road transitioned to a cow path and ended on a rise in a cemetery clearing. The clearing had a sign directing visitors to a path that led down to Horseshoe Bottom.

Freeman showed me the graves of his wife's family and suggested that we might want to walk down the trail. Suddenly, a pickup truck pulling a trailer flew up the rise, drove right in front of us, circled over graves, and parked on the cow path so nobody could leave. The driver got out declaring "Boys, nobody is going anywhere soon." He declared they were there to cut the grass. I looked at the dry brown grass and wondered if this was something like a movie I once saw. Not having grass to cut, two workers started blowing leaves. Freeman and the driver obviously knew each other and chatted about local affairs for ten or fifteen minutes before I decided to ask the driver a question, "Could you move your truck so I could get out?" He smiled with a laugh in his voice and said "sure" – and promptly moved his truck.

It was early afternoon and I wanted to be back in Ypsilanti that evening, so I thanked Freeman and headed north. The driver and probably Calvin had some fun and I had an experience. Learning that the Cumberland River was the de-





Calvin Kennett "...would likely share oral history."



Freeman Padgett "...I have nothing else to do!"

clared northern border of the Confederate States of America explained why Major Cutcheon skirmished at Horseshoe Bend and made the side trip worthwhile.

The Cumberland River was dammed up and became Lake

Cumberland. As a result, Horseshoe Bend no longer exists as it did during the Civil War.

*(Bill Nickels has served as President of the Ypsilanti Historical Society for several years and has provided leadership on many preservation projects.)*

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## Museum Advisory Board Report

BY EVAN MILAN, CHAIR

Just as spring breathes new life into Ypsilanti, things are far from the same old thing at the Asa Dow Home. First and foremost, I would like to thank Nancy Balogh and Chuck Bultman for adding their voice to the Museum Advisory Board. The Advisory Board stands to oversee the day-to-day functions of the museum, and to ensure the story of Ypsilanti is being told. Over the previous three years, more than a few long-time advisors have made the difficult decision to step down from their roll; the absence of Virginia Davis-Brown, Louise Nagel, Kathleen Campbell, and Nancy Wheeler has not gone unnoticed. I continue to be humbled by the tireless efforts of Nancy Taylor, Stephanie Kelly, Tim Sabo, John Scanlon, David Mongson, Fofie Pappas, Daneen Zureich and John Stewart. The museum is in a transitional period as we find our footing in the world of rapidly changing perspectives; Nancy Balogh and Chuck Bultman have selflessly stepped forward to lend their voices to the board.

Visitors to the museum can now see the history of Brown Chapel AME Church. Brown Chapel was the first AME Church established in Washtenaw County and the second established in the State of Michigan. Shortly after Bethel AME Church was founded in Detroit, Brown Chapel was officially established in Ypsilanti. With guidance, stories, and invaluable insights from Pastor Donald Phillips, Carolyn James, and Palm Leaf Club Parliamentary member Valerie Eaglin, we can now share some of the history of Brown Chapel and

the community that surrounds it. I am, as well, indebted to our Interns, Connor Ashley and Austin Martin, for their assistance in bringing this display into fruition. There is over 175 years of Brown Chapel history to share and the display will continue to grow over the next few months.

January 28 was a day that will likely be remembered by Metro-Detroiters for some time. After an outstanding season, it appeared that the Lion's would finally play in Super Bowl LVIII. Unfortunately, after a strong start against the San Francisco 49ers in the NFC Conference Championship, the Lion's lost their lead and were unable to regain it. Super Bowl LVIII pitted the 49ers against the Kansas City Chiefs; however, few of us are disheartened. The Lions have performed well, and we all look forward to a strong 2024 season. Through the research and enthusiasm of John Scanlon, YHS is celebrating the Lions too. From 1949-1957 the Detroit Lions reported to Ypsilanti for training camp. Still on display in the Heritage Room, see photos of the Lions as featured in Life Magazine on August 23, 1953 and passages from Derek Spinei's article, when Lions Stalked the Streets of Ypsilanti, in the Spring 2010 issue of the Gleanings.

Our displays will continue to evolve. We exist solely as a community resource. YHS is here to tell the story of all of us. I encourage everyone to stop by, to see what's new, and to give your input on how to tell the story going forward.

# Lyman Decatur Norris and the Case of Dred Scott

BY JAMES MANN

Lyman Decatur Norris arrived at the University of Michigan in 1841, where he found the Reverend George Palmer Williams, one of the first professors at the school, dressed in old clothes, sorting through a contribution of some 3,700 books of foreign works. These works were the beginning of what is now the University Library. Norris introduced himself to Reverend Williams and said he had a certificate authorizing him to enter the University. Where, Norris asked, did he go to register? The Reverend Williams led him down to the first floor and to the desk set up for students to register. Norris signed the register, thus becoming the first student in the newly established University.



Lyman Decatur Norris

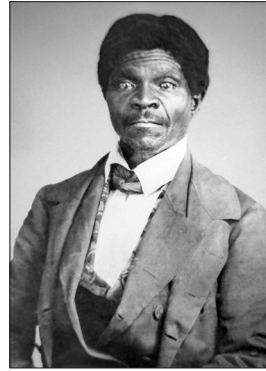
Norris was born in Covington, New York on May 4, 1823, the son of Mark and Roccena Norris. The family moved to Ypsilanti, Michigan in 1828. There he received an education in the local school which was run by his mother.

He remained at the university for three years and then transferred to Yale, where he received his degree in law in 1845. He was admitted to the Michigan Bar in 1847. Soon after, he moved to St. Louis, Missouri, where he entered a partnership with Hugh A. Garland. Then, the firm of Garland & Norris was retained by John Sanford to represent him in the case of Dred Scott.

On April 6, 1846, attorneys for Dred Scott, a slave, filed a petition in the Circuit Court of St. Louis, Missouri. The petition noted that Scott, *"a man of color, respectfully states to your Honor that he is claimed as a slave by one Irene Emerson, of the County of St. Louis, State of Missouri, widow of the late Dr. John Emerson, who at the time of his death was a surgeon of the United States Army."*

Scott was born in about the year 1799 in the county of Southampton, Virginia, and may have been the property of the family of Peter Bow. In the year of 1818, Scott and five other slaves were taken by their owner, Peter Bow, to Alabama, where Bow tried to run a farm. The farm was unsuccessful, and Bow moved his family and slaves to St. Louis, Missouri, in 1830. There, Bow and his family ran a boarding house. In about 1830, Bow sold Scott to Dr. John Emerson, a surgeon with the United States Army. Peter Bow died in 1831.

Dr. Emerson was sent by the Army in 1836, from St. Louis to Fort Armstrong, in the free state of Illinois. Then in 1837, Dr. Emerson was transferred to Fort Snelling, in what was then the free territory of Wisconsin, now in the State of Minnesota. There Scott met and married Harriet Robinson, a slave owned by Lawrence Taliaferro. Ownership of Harriet was



Dred Scott - circa 1857

transferred to Dr. Emerson. When Dr. Emerson was sent to Jefferson Barracks, Missouri in 1837, he left Scott and his wife behind, renting the pair out to others at the post. When Dr. Emerson was stationed at Fort Jesup in Louisiana, he met and married Eliza Irene Sanford. From there Dr. Emerson sent for the Scott family to join him and his wife. On the steamboat as it traveled down the Mississippi River, Harriet gave birth to their daughter whom they named Eliza. She was born between the free state of Illinois and the free territory of Wisconsin. This made her a free person under the law of each of these territories.

In fact, under the laws of Illinois and the Wisconsin Territory, Scott and his wife were free persons, and could have petitioned for their freedom there, something Scott was most likely unaware of. When in 1840 Dr. Emerson and the Scott family returned to Missouri, a slave state, as they crossed the state line into Missouri, their daughter, Eliza, then sixteen years of age, transmuted from person to property.

Dr. Emerson died in 1843, and his wife Irene and their daughter inherited the estate, which included the Scott family. Irene and her brother, John F. A. Sanford, were named as executors. As the Scott family were her property, she rented out the Scott family as hired slaves. Then in 1843 Scott tried to purchase the freedom for himself and his family from Mrs. Emerson, but she rejected the offer. She might have been willing to free Scott and his family, but the estate was left in trust, with Scott and his family part of the property.

The petition filed on behalf of Scott concluded with: *"That said Emerson is now dead and his widow, the said Irene, claims petitioner's services a slave and as his owner, but believing that under this state of fact that he is entitled to his freedom, he prays your Honor to allow him to sue said Irene Emerson in said court, in order to establish his right to freedom, and he will pray, etc."* The petition was signed by Scott with his mark, the letter X. *"The judge of the St. Louis court grants the petitioner leave to sue, etc., as prayed for, and orders: First, that the petitioner, Dred Scott, be allowed to sue on giving security satisfactory to the clerk for all costs that may be adjudged against him."*

*"Second, that said Dred Scott have reasonable liberty to attend his counsel and the court as occasion may require. And that he be not subject to any security on account of his application for freedom."*

There was nothing new about what the attorneys for Scott were doing, as under Missouri law a slave who had lived in a free state or territory, as Scott and his wife and children had,



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had a legal right to sue for their freedom. Scott had a strong case for his freedom, and legal precedents under Missouri law upheld a “once free, always free” practice. There had been 280 freedom suits before the St. Louis Circuit court between 1806 and 1857. When the petition was filed, this was nothing more than a routine and insignificant matter. All attorneys for Scott had to do was show that Scott and his family had been held as slaves in a free state and territory.

A question remains as to why the attorneys for Scott agreed to take the case, as Scott would have little money to pay their fees. Their motivation may have been their own financial gain.

*“There is little likelihood, however,”* wrote Frederick Trevor Hill in *Decisive Battles of the Law*, *“that it was this nice point of law or any humanitarian impulses that actuated the attorneys. Indeed, there is every indication that their motives were anything but disinterested, for the papers show that their main object was to pave the way for a suit against the Emerson estate for the twelve years’ wages to which Scott would be entitled should the courts declare that he had been illegally held as a slave since 1834. Had it not been for this ulterior design it is highly improbable that the suit would ever have been defended.”*

That is, the attorneys may have planned to sue the Emerson estate for Scott’s back wages and take their fee from this.

The trial was held on June 30, 1847, with David P. Hall and Alexander P. Field for Scott and Lyman D. Norris and Hugh A. Garland for Irene Emerson. The first witness was Henry T. Blow who told the court that Scott *“was formerly owned by my father, Peter Blow, who sold him to Dr. Emerson.”* In the years after Scott had been sold to Emerson, the children of Peter Blow had turned abolitionist, and supported Scott in his efforts for freedom. The Blow family paid the bond for Scott and continued to pay his fees as the case moved through the state courts. They ended their support when the case moved to the federal courts.

The next witness was Samuel Russell, who said *“Dred Scott and his wife were hired by me from Mrs. Emerson, wife Dr. Emerson; I paid their hire to Colonel Sanford, the father of Mrs. Emerson.”*

Then under cross-examination he said: *“I did not hire the Negroes myself, it was my wife who made the arrangements with Mrs. Emerson about them; know nothing of the hiring; but what I have been told by my wife; did nothing but pay the hiring money to Colonel Sanford. I supposed that it was for Mrs. Emerson.”*

This came as a surprise to the attorneys for Scott, as Russell did not personally hire Scott and his wife as the contract was made by Mrs. Russell and Irene Emerson, so as to make his testimony hearsay. As the attorneys for Scott had relied on his testimony to prove Irene Emerson owned Dred Scott

and his wife. For this reason, the jury found in favor of Irene Emerson.

Attorneys for Scott submitted a motion for a new trial, which was granted. There was a delay in the case as it was appealed to the Missouri State Supreme Court but ruled that there was *“no final judgment upon which a writ of error can only lie,”* the case was returned to the circuit court.

Before a new trial could start, on March 17, 1848, Irene Emerson had the sheriff of St. Louis County take charge of the Scott family. He was responsible for hiring the family out and had to maintain the wages earned by them until such time as the suit was determined. Charles Edmund LaBeaume hired Dred and Harriet Scott from the sheriff in 1851 and employed the two for the next seven years.

*“Upon its return to the St. Louis Circuit Court, it was docketed for February 27, 1849, but postponed because of a heavy court schedule. This happened again when a court date of May 2, 1849, was set. The possibility of a trial in late May was denied when a fire swept through St. Louis on May 17, bringing most business in the city to a complete halt. A cholera outbreak in the summer delayed proceedings further. The case was finally heard on January 12, 1850, with Judge Alexander Hamilton presiding,”* noted an article from Missouri Digital Heritage: Dred Scott Case. No author is named.

The evidence at the trial was the same as the first, with the additional testimony of Adeline Russell who said: *“I Am the wife of Mr. Russell who has just testified; did not know Dr. Emerson; was acquainted with Mrs. Emerson; have known her eight or ten years; know the plaintiffs in these suits—they were in my service for two years or almost that time; have known them some four or five years; they were under the control of Mrs. Emerson; Mrs. Emerson claimed these Negroes as her slaves; do not recollect if I heard Mrs. Emerson say they were her slaves; do not recollect if I paid for their services to Mrs. Emerson or Mr. Sanford, as her agent; think Mr. Russell paid for services; think it has been between two or three years since they left my house; think Mrs. Emerson resided at Mississippi or Missouri river before they were in my service. At the time I hired these Negroes they were in the service of Col. Bainbridge.”*

*“For their case,”* noted the account from the Missouri Heritage site, *“Garland and Norris claimed that Irene Emerson had every right to hire out her slaves. They stated that while Dr. Emerson was residing at Fort Armstrong (Rock Island) and Fort Snelling, he was under military jurisdiction—not the civil law that prohibited slavery in those areas. Military law, they claimed, superseded civil law and therefore Dred and Harriet Scott were not free. This argument of military and civil law had already been presented to the Missouri Supreme Court in Rachel v. Walker (1837) and the Court determined at that time that the argument*

did not apply. Garland and Norris ignored this precedent, though, in an effort to protect Emerson's property interests."

Garland and Norris had asked the court to instruct the jury that "if they believe that the posts at Rock Island and Fort Snelling during the residence of said slaves, each of them respectively was under military jurisdiction and not under the civil government of the territory then in existence, they must find for the defendant." This request was refused by the court.

Norris gave the closing argument for his side. "The authorities," said Norris, "in this state are conflicting but the best considered judicial opinion is that if the slave comes back here although he has been in a free territory, he becomes a slave again. Dr. Emerson did not violate the Missouri Compromise law by obeying the orders of his government and going to the military posts in free territory. The voluntary return of the slave places him under the operation of our local laws and the rights of his master, if ever divested, reattach the moment they are again in a State that recognizes the institution of domestic slavery. I do not deem it necessary to recur to the history of the Missouri Compromise which is well known to all of us...."

"Rapidly increasing in wealth, population and power, Missouri claimed admission into the Union on an equality with her sister States. Then commenced the agitation, the history, objects and effects of which your honor is as familiar with as with household words. If the historians and writers of the day are to be believed, it was deep-seated and wide-spread excitement, that for a long time threatened the existence of the Union and the perpetuity of free institutions. It was the periodical appearance of an epidemical disease, a species of 'black vomit' that ever has and will we hope continue to carry unfledged statesmen and 'higher law' demagogues to the grave of political oblivion. With an earnest desire to calm the storm that has been awakened, Missouri under protest, accepted the Compromise act of the great statesman who originated it and neither waiving her just views of the constitutional powers of Congress to impose the condition nor to recognize the right of any created being to control or weaken in any manner her State rights, she came into the Union."

Norris then spoke about the dimming political star of Henry Clay, author of the Missouri Compromise. Then he returned to the subject of the case.

"Suppose" said Norris, "Congress should pass a law declaring that the keeping of black horses, a species of property existing in Missouri and recognized by the Constitution of the United States and of Missouri shall be the same is hereby prohibited in the territory of Utah. The same government that passes the law through the executive department orders an officer who unfortunately owns a black horse, that he can neither sell, lose nor give away, to the

territory of Utah, and he takes with him his said horse (I admit that the horse, if there were horse abortionists there, would get his freedom in Utah); but when he comes back here and asks you to give him up, would you do it? This is perhaps a strong and coarse illustration, but is it not a case in point?"

"I will close with the words of wisdom uttered by our own Judge Napton in a recent case: 'Neither sound policy nor enlightened philanthropy should encourage in a slave-holding state the multiplication of a race whose condition could be neither that of freemen nor slaves and whose existence and increase in this anomalous character, without promoting their individual comfort or happiness tends only to dissatisfy and corrupt those of their own race and color remaining in a state of servitude.'"

Then D. N. Hall, attorney for Scott, gave his closing statement. "The Court," said Hall, "instructed you that the taking and holding of the plaintiff as a slave at Rock Island and Fort Snelling entitled him to his freedom. The fact that they were military posts does not affect his rights. Even if he could not acquire a right to his freedom in consequence of the right of Dr. Emerson to employ and have servants for his own use there, he would acquire such freedom by being left by the deceased in the services of others as a slave, after he himself was removed by orders to a different post, which the evidence shows was a fact."

The jury decided in favor of Scott, and he became a free man, at least for a time. Hugh Garland, the attorney for Mrs. Emerson, moved for a new trial, on the grounds: 1. The verdict was contrary to law. 2. The verdict was not supported by the evidence. 3. The instructions asked for by the plaintiff's counsel and given by the court were not according to the law and evidence. And 4. The court erred in refusing the instructions asked by the defendant's counsel. Judge Hamilton refused to grant the motion for a new trial.

On February 13, 1850, Judge Hamilton did sign a bill of exception for an appeal to the State Supreme Court of Missouri. Later that same year Norris traveled to Europe on business for a client, while there he visited galleries, saw the tourist sites and attended the opera. On his return to St. Louis in the spring of 1851, he found the Missouri Supreme Court had not heard the appeal in the Dred Scott case. The members of the court had decided to reverse the decision in the circuit court to free Scott but had not decided on which precedents and arguments to base this act on. The court took up the appeal in November of 1851, and although Garland had submitted a brief, Norris obtained permission to submit a brief of his own.

In his brief Norris used partisan political language to question the Northwest Ordinance of 1787 and the Missouri Compromise. His language in the brief was also extremely patronizing toward African Americans and characterize white abolitionist as "black vomit."



On March 22, 1852, the State Superior Court of Missouri reversed the Circuit Court and returned Dred Scott to slavery. The two-to-one decision had incorporated Norris's arguments and his language. "From this point on," wrote Walter Ehrlich in *"They Have No Rights: Dred Scott's Struggle for Freedom"*, "the Dred Scott case clearly changed from a genuine freedom suit to the controversial political issue for which it became infamous in American history."

"I must not forget to tell you of my 'Slave Case,'" wrote Norris to his mother in a letter dated March 31, 1852. He recounted the history of the case, and then noted, that, "The case had lingered so long it became chronic. Dred's nose had been kept to the grindstone by his lawyers, who worked but little and made him pay well."

"I told Dred I should beat him and proposed to him that I would buy him and his family for \$400 from his master which I could easily have done, as he had no hopes of winning the case—and then Dred must make an agreement to pay me \$100 a year, take care of my room, etc. Until it was paid (a little over two years) and he would be free—but he was certain of winning and thought it would be a waste of money and he is now a slave for life—hard is it not?...Before the decision Dred and his wife had to work day and night to live, he wore old cloths and always had a thin, anxious, worn look that belongs to a poor free negro. I hardly even know him to laugh and have often times thought of recommending him to start for Canada and get

*out of a slave state and away from trouble."*

*"The moment the matter was settled and his Master took charge of him again, gave him a house, clothed him warmer and fed, he was another man, his face shines with fat and contentment-- you can hear his loud guffaw a mile, and nothing does him more good than to sit on a box in the sun and abuse 'poor white folks'--Perhaps you say poor fellow he don't know any better. Yes, I admit he is in a poor state of existence but that is not his fault or his Masters—There he must remain, a happy and contented slave, then a poor squalid, disturbed free negro but I must stop somewhere."*

At least, that is what Norris told his mother.

Norris would play no further role in the case of Dred Scott as it entered federal jurisdiction. He returned to Michigan in 1854, to take over the business dealings of his father, whose health was in decline. He was a member of the 1867 Michigan Constitutional Convention and later a member of the Michigan Senate, and a member of the University of Michigan's Board of Regents. He moved to Grand Rapids in 1871, where he died at the age of 71, on January 6, 1894. When asked in later years about his role in the case of Dred Scott, he said it was "several shades of buncombe and sophomoric."

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



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# H. H. Holmes: The Ann Arbor Years

BY JAMES THOMAS MANN

**H**erman Webster Mudgett, better known as H. H. Holmes, has the distinction as far as is known, of being only one of two alums of the University of Michigan to have been hanged for murder. Under the name of Holmes, Mudgett would become the first documented serial killer in American history.

Mudgett is best remembered for the murders he committed during the Chicago World's Fair of 1893. His "*Murder Castle*," a three-story building just off the fairgrounds, was the scene of an unknown number of murders, most of his victims being young women. His story has been told in *The Devil in the White City* by Erik Larson, *The Torture Doctor* by David Franke, and others.

The life of Holmes has been studied in depth, except for his years at the University of Michigan. What has been written about his time in Ann Arbor has been brief and misleading. Accounts tell of acts of fraud and murder but fail to cite sources.

For example, Wikipedia states: "*While enrolled, [at U of M] he stole bodies from the laboratory, disfigured the bodies, and claimed that the people were killed accidentally in order to collect insurance money from policies he took out on each deceased person.*"

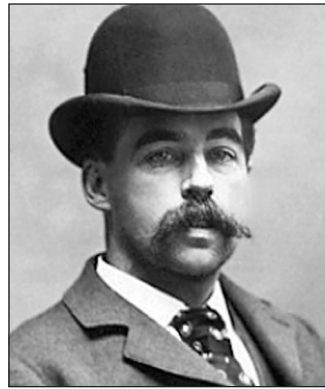
Another example is found in Harper's Magazine for the issue of December 1943: "*On the night a body disappeared while being taken to the college dissecting room a resident of Ann Arbor 'died' after a brief illness. Holmes collected insurance.*"

There is fact no evidence Mudgett committed any criminal acts during his stay at the University. Long before his career as a serial killer began, his time at the University of Michigan provides an insight into the nature of the man Mudgett would become.

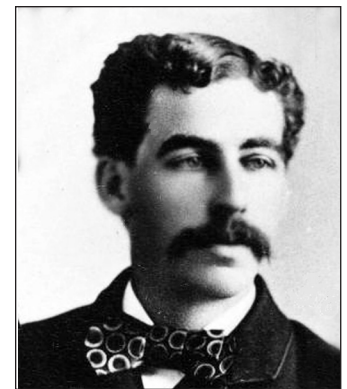
Mudgett was born at Gilmanton, New Hampshire on May 16, 1861, the son of an alcoholic father and a Methodist mother. He married Clare Lovering on July 4, 1878, at Alton, New Hampshire.

He studied medicine at the University of Vermont in Burlington, but according to Erik Larson in his book *The Devil in the White City*, he "*found the school too small and after one year moved to the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, one of the West's leading scientific medical schools, noted for its emphasis on the controversial art of dissection.*"

Mudgett registered at the University of Michigan on September 21, 1882, as a junior. He listed his residence as Maple Rapids, Michigan, a small community north of Lansing. At this time, a student applying for admission to the university had to give the name of a doctor the student had apprenticed



After graduation from the University of Michigan and moving to Chicago, Herman Mudgett used the name H. H. Holmes.



Herman Mudgett when he graduated from the University of Michigan School of Medicine. Courtesy of the Bentley Historical Library.

under, usually for one year. The doctor who performed this function was called a Preceptor. The role of the Preceptor was to assure the School of Medicine the student had studied medicine and was serious about their studies and was of a good moral character. Mudgett listed as his Preceptor Nahum Wright of Maple Rapids, Michigan. Nahum Wright was, like Mudgett, a native of Gilmanton, New Hampshire, and the two may have known each other there. There is no record of the university receiving any confirmation of Mudgett's background from Dr. Wright, or of any attempt by the university to contact him for such an assurance.

"Every candidate for admission to the Department of Medicine and Surgery must be eighteen years of age and must present to the Faculty satisfactory evidence of a good moral character," stated the Catalog of the University of Michigan, 1882-1883.

"Those," noted the Catalog, "*who have studied medicine elsewhere at least one year, may be admitted to the junior or second year; on passing an examination showing an amount of knowledge of anatomy, physiology, chemistry, and material medica equal to that possessed by the average student who has attended the first year's course of instruction in this college.*"

At this time, the study of medicine at the university was a three-year course. For a second-year student this course of study, as listed in the catalog, was: "*Continuation in review of Anatomy, Histology, Physiology, Chemistry, and Materia Medica and Therapeutics; with Pathology and Practice of Medicine, Surgery, and Obstetrics.*"

To cover the cost for the material needed for the study of anatomy, that is, a cadaver or dead body, students had to pay a fee of twenty dollars.

Not long before his death Mudgett authored a memoir in which he wrote that while at Ann Arbor he was introduced to "*many quaint and some ghastly experiences of our medical education... Suffice to say, that they stopped far short of desecration of country graveyards, as has been repeatedly charged, as it is a well known fact that in the State of Michigan all material necessary for dissection work is legitimately supplied by the State.*"



*Schools of Medicine, doctors and medical students had a bad reputation throughout the nineteenth century, because of the trouble obtaining the material needed. There never seemed to be enough cadavers available by legal means. To find the necessary number of cadavers, Schools of Medicine, including the University of Michigan, procured what was needed by illegal means. To keep peace at home, the School of Medicine at the University of Michigan had by the 1870's established a network of out-of-state suppliers who provided what was needed. There was an improvement in the situation when new laws were passed, but no full solution would come until the early twentieth century. "The Anatomical Law of Michigan furnishes," noted the Catalog, "without embarrassment, a most ample supply of material for the purposes of Practical Anatomy."*

The School of Medicine was housed in a three-story building built in 1850 with four tall Greek columns on the east side. A four-story addition was added to the west end of the building in 1864. Classes were held in amphitheater styled rooms, with students seated in rows looking down on the professor. Here the professor would lecture and demonstrate his subject. The study of anatomy was carried out by the dissection of a cadaver, in a large room on the top floor of the addition.

Mudgett did not leave the best of impressions on his classmates, but they did remember him. None would claim to have known him well, as Mudgett was not the kind of man to make friends. Dr. J. L. Rose, who was a member of the same class as Mudgett, would years later recall him as looking and acting "like a clodhopper." That is, his fellow students found him to be a clumsy rustic, and a bore.

*"He did not distinguish himself as a student and showed no marks of brilliancy or even acuteness,"* noted *The Ann Arbor Argus* of Friday, May 15, 1896.

*"He appeared to be in straitened circumstances financially, and for some time earned his room rent at Dr. Herdman's by doing odd chores about the place, caring for the doctor's horses. He earned his board for part of the time acting as steward for the club of Mrs. Herbert,"* reported *The Detroit Evening News* of Thursday, July 25, 1895.

During his junior year at the University, Mudgett had a relationship with a Mrs. Fitch, a young widow who ran a hair-dressing establishment in Ann Arbor. The Ann Arbor City Directory for 1883 lists a Mrs. Anna Fitch, widow of Lowie, as living at 7 East Huron. There were no dormitories on campus then; students lived as boarders in houses throughout the city. So, it is possible she rented rooms to students and Mudgett may have been one of them.

Mrs. Fitch retained an attorney to take Mudgett to court and force him to keep his promise of marriage. Then Mrs. Fitch came into possession of a letter from the real Mrs. Mudgett, who asked her husband to send some money so she could purchase shoes for their child.

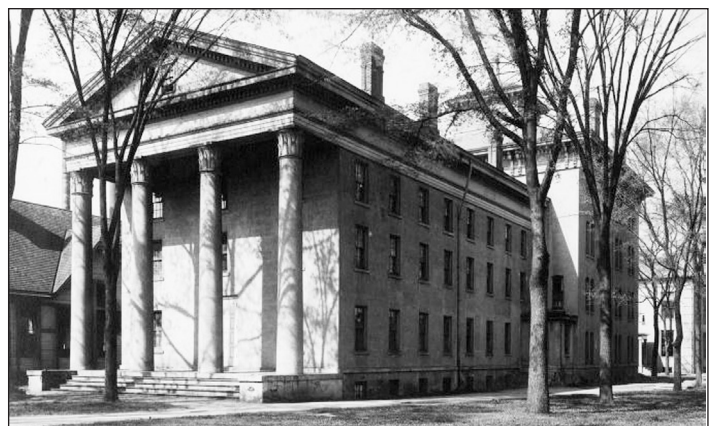
At first Mrs. Fitch believed the letter was a trick by Mudgett to end their relationship. The fact that the real Mrs. Mudgett existed was soon discovered and Mrs. Fitch presented her case to the faculty of the Medical School. After he had gained her confidence, she told the faculty of the Medical School, Mudgett had "so conducted himself as to ruin her business and injure her reputation." She presented letters she said were from Mudgett to the faculty, to support her claim he had promised to marry her. To test the genuineness of the letters, the faculty had Mudgett write a letter in their presence and compared it to those of Mrs. Fitch. The handwriting on the letter was different from those of Mrs. Fitch and the faculty dismissed the case. There is no official record of the case to be found.

*"Long afterward it was learned that, while he was expecting to be sued for breach of promise of marriage, he had tried to coach a young daughter of Mrs. Herbert to swear that she knew Mrs. Fitch was an opium eater."*

Sometime after this the real Mrs. Mudgett arrived in Ann Arbor and helped support herself and her husband by doing sewing work and sometimes doing kitchen work. *"She was afflicted with epilepsy or some seizure resembling it, and her husband on one occasion explained that it was his sole reason for studying medicine, to be able to care for her properly, and that he intended to devote his life to curing her,"* noted the account.

Even as Mudgett awaited trial for murder, rumors went about that he had something to do with the death of C. H. Gench, while a student at the university.

According to the rumors, Charles H. Gench was a law student who lived with a friend east of the city. Gench died suddenly, and when neighbors offered to help with the arrangements for the funeral, they were turned away in such a manner as to cause suspicions to be aroused. The body was sent home, but friends said the remains were not recognizable as Gench. Suspicions were further aroused by the fact Gench had insurance policies of \$15,000 to \$18,000. At the time of death, Gench was only 28 years of age. An officer of



The first Medical Building at the University of Michigan where Herman Mudgett, better known as H. H. Holmes, studied medicine. Courtesy of the Bentley Historical Library.

the Supreme Lodge of the Knights of Pythias arrived in Ann Arbor to investigate the business. The officer is reported to have left Ann Arbor satisfied that all was in order. Gench, it was said, enjoyed living off his life insurance. Mudgett was said to have provided the body substituted for that of Gench from the Medical School. Whatever the facts of the case, Mudgett had nothing to do with it. The death of Gench was reported by *The Ann Arbor Argus* of Friday, March 5, 1880, two years before the arrival of Mudgett in Ann Arbor. The case of death was listed as pneumonia.

A student who died during the time Mudgett was at the university was Ralph Kuechler who was a member of the literary class of 1884. *"It was sudden,"* reported *The Ann Arbor Courier* of February 9, 1883, *"for after an illness of only six days, on Saturday morning at 10:30, he died of acute peritonitis. Being an athlete of fine physical development, he was taken by almost the only disease in which his strong constitution could not avail him. Of a bright and pleasant disposition, he was popular, and he will be greatly missed by his companions and friends. He lacked only three days of being 21. The services were held at the Zeta Psi house Monday forenoon, after which the remains were followed to the depot by his classmates. R. D. Stevens, of the medical department, accompanied the body to the home of his parents in Austin, Texas."*

Robert D. Stevens, a fellow member of the Zeta Psi fraternity, was the only student to accompany the remains to Texas. *"No sooner had Mr. Stevens delivered over to his friends in Texas the charge entrusted to him when he was taken down with pneumonia, and within four days, --before his own people could reach him—he was dead."* Reported *The Ann Arbor Courier* of February 23, 1883.

There is no evidence that Mudgett knew the two men or had anything to do with their deaths.

During the summer of 1883, Mudgett would commit what he later said was *"the first really dishonest act of my life."* He was employed by a bookseller to market a book throughout northwest Illinois. At the end of the summer, when he was to turn in the proceeds to his employer, Mudgett kept the money for himself. *"I could hardly count my Western trip a failure,"* recalled Mudgett, *"for I had seen Chicago."*

The Register for the Medical School for the session of 1883-1884, his senior year, has of Mudgett, Date of Entrance: August 22. The Register records he was absent only once during the session, Thursday, November 22. *"The remainder of my medical course,"* wrote Mudgett, *"differed very little from the first two years; filled perhaps more completely with hard work and study, and almost wholly devoid of pleasure and recreation."*

The classes for the senior year, as listed in the Catalog were: *"Practice of Medicine, Surgery, Obstetrics and the Diseases of Women and Children, Ophthalmology and Otolgoy, with Clinical Medicine and Surgery, and Clinical*



Classes for the medical school were in the amphitheater style, so students could view the operation from their seats. Courtesy of the Bentley Historical Library.

*Gynecology."* At the end of the session the faculty of the Medical School held a meeting on June 18, 1884, to decide which of the students would be granted degrees. At this time, the faculty voted on which students would pass or fail. The number of votes needed to pass was 45.

The members of the faculty voted on each student in turn. A few, including Mudgett, failed to receive the number of votes needed to pass on the first ballot. Then, for each student who had not received the number of votes necessary to pass, a motion was made to give them the number needed. The minutes of the meeting record: *"H. Mudgett failing to get the passing vote on the first ballot it was moved and supported he be given the passing vote. Carried."*

Mudgett received 45 votes, the minimum needed to pass.

*"I left Ann Arbor with my diploma,"* wrote Mudgett, *"a good theoretical knowledge of medicine, but with no practical knowledge of life and of business."*

Once Mudgett had his degree he went out into the world and held a series of unsuccessful jobs, teaching, practicing medicine and working in drugstores. He arrived in Chicago in July of 1886, and under the name of Holmes found employment in a drug store, working under a Mrs. Holton. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Holton agreed to sell the store to Holmes. Soon after, she disappeared, most likely murdered by Holmes. In time he would build his "Murder Castle" near the grounds of the World's Fair and murder an unknown number of women for his pleasure and profit. His end came in 1896, with his death on the gallows.

*"It is not a matter of pride to have graduated such a villain,"* noted *The Ann Arbor Argus*, *"but it is a matter of pride that this is the first arch villain to be found among the many thousand graduates of the university. The criminal traits which marked the man were developed afterwards and the world is better because he has finally left it."*

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



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Family	\$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sustaining	\$40.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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