

1996

## Preservation Eastern Newsletter, Vol. 3, No. 1, 1996

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*Eastern Michigan University*

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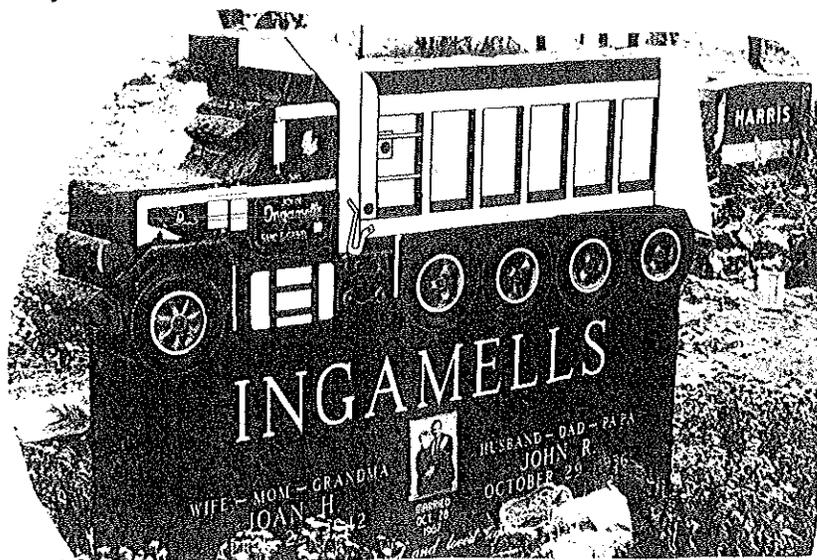
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## The John R. Ingamells Monument : An Example of a Highly Personalized Grave Marker

By John W. Murphey

A new style of grave marker is appearing in many rural and suburban cemeteries across America. Tentatively called the "personalized marker" by the monument industry, the trend to personalize monuments may be viewed as a reaction to the sterile monument standards imposed by the predominating memorial park movement of this century. With the recent introduction of computer-assisted etching technologies and expanded markets of imported granite, the pictorial monument has become a medium in which the hobby, occupation, and/or lifestyle of the deceased is represented in stone. Although the personalized marker has important social and cultural implications, the style has only been briefly mentioned by a few scholars studying cemeteries. The personalized marker and subsequent new cemetery space is reflective of the transformation of the American cemetery from a community of the dead, to space best described as a lifestyle enclave.



The John R. Ingamells monument located in White Lake Township, Michigan, is an example of a highly personalized marker where both pride of occupation and lifestyle are etched into stone. Approaching the monument dealer after her husband's death, the surviving widow had the idea of using a truck to memorialize her husband who had owned a sand and gravel business. Through consultation with the monument dealer it was decided upon that her husband was not to be memorialized with a simple etching of a truck, but instead a two-dimensional, scaled-down replica of his Peterbilt truck was carved out of a slab of black granite. Another wish of Mrs. Ingamells was to depict her husband's many activities that had given meaning to his life. In order to give cohesion to a

client's memory of the loved one's personality, monument dealer Bill McIninch developed what he has termed the "path of life" narrative, where all the important ingredients of identity are arranged as pictorial emblems along a path starting from a point on earth to a generic conception of the afterlife. On the reverse side of the Ingamells monument is a path of life which begins at the couple's ranch house nestled in the woods and winds its way across an etched landscape where the significant elements of Ingamell's identity are arranged along the path which eventually leads to heaven. Found along the allegorical road are Ingamell's favorite El Camino, the fire station where he once served as fire chief, the sand and gravel business he ran, the church he and his wife attended, and insignias of Rotary International and the Fraternal Order of Police executed in exacting detail. The Ingamells monument is an exceptional memorial where permanent self-identity is constituted after death by the survivor's reflexive ordering of remembered elements of personality organized along the path of life.

In the newly emerging cemeteries populated with personalized markers, the uniform memorial and structuring of biography along familiar contours of vital dates and religious and moral directives is less important than the expression of a loved one's identity symbolized by depictions of hobby, lifestyle, and occupation. Conspicuously absent from markers etched with trucks, cars, slot machines, and farmsteads, are representations of extended familial relations, social hierarchies, religious symbolism, and moral admonitions that characterized markers of earlier American periods. The contemporary marker reflects the rise of the ontological individual over the traditional idea of person and community.

**PRESIDENT'S COLUMN:**

Preservation Eastern is continuing to grow and expand its activities. I am excited to be involved as director of Preservation Eastern for 1996. There are currently many opportunities for students and alumni to become involved and express their individual talents and interests. Preservation Eastern's on-going activities include planning the fall orientation for new students to historic preservation, enriching our historic preservation perspective through an active speakers series and investigating new possibilities in Detroit. EMU is debating several plans for historic Boone Hall and Preservation Eastern is taking a pro-active approach before Boone Hall becomes another parking lot. The growing relationship between Preservation Eastern and the Ypsilanti Historical Museum has produced several hands-on projects. These projects range from molding repair to preparing a five-year master plan to developing a historic landscape plan for the museum. Preservation Eastern's meetings for Winter Term 1996 are on the first and third Thursdays of the month at 8:00 PM in 239 Strong Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend. If you can not make the meetings, but are interested in being involved in activities I can be contacted at 313-484-5106.



Kirsten Merriman  
President, Preservation Eastern.

**PRESERVATION EASTERN  
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR 1996**

Goal: To foster a working relationship between Preservation Eastern and the Ypsilanti Historical Museum / City of Ypsilanti.

- Draft an Interpretation / Collections Plan in collaboration with the Ypsilanti Historical Museum board.
- Conduct a feasibility study of the Ypsilanti Historical Museum structure in partnership with Eastern Constructors, the student group of EMU's Construction Technology Program.
- Work towards establishing an internship at the Ypsilanti Historical Museum for a EMU Preservation Program student.

Goal: To persuade the Eastern Michigan University Administration and Board of Regents that Boone Hall (1917) is a building worthy of restoration and preservation.

- Organize a "Save Boone Hall" Task Force, including members from different University groups and organizations and concerned Ypsilanti residents and groups.
- Publicize the history and importance of Boone Hall to the public by utilizing local news media (WEMU, Ann Arbor News, Ypsilanti Courier, Eastern Echo, EMU Focus, etc.)
- Add Boone Hall, Ford Hall, Pease Auditorium and possibly the Martin Luther King Jr. Courtyard to the Eastern Michigan University National Register Historic District.

Goal: To establish a "Detroit Initiative" to increase the awareness of the students and the faculty about the activities and issues of historic preservation in Detroit.

- Establish a Media Information Series. (Binders of newspaper clippings, brochures, conference material, etc.)
- Develop contacts with Detroit preservation organizations.
- Reset and draft a "feasibility study" regarding the possibility of a student organization such as Preservation Eastern initiating and sustaining a working relationship with the preservation community in Detroit.

Note: These goals and objectives were established at two Preservation Eastern meetings in 1995: 1) November 12 - brainstorming goals and objectives; and 2) December 11 - voting goals and objectives.

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**PRESERVATION EASTERN OFFICERS FOR 1996**

- Director - Kirsten Merriman  
 Treasurer - Tracey Miller  
 Activities - Annette Hader  
 Public Relations - Susan Rothstein  
 Newsletter Editors - Heather Richards, Janna Baron  
 and Wendy Winslow

## YPSILANTI'S TOWNER HOUSE: The Most Recent Decision

By Mary Culver

*In the following article, Mary Culver, a graduate of the EMU Historic Preservation Program examines the most recent judicial decision regarding the Towner House in Ypsilanti. This has been an on-going legal battle between the Presbyterian Church and the City of Ypsilanti for well over a decade, and may in years to come be regarded as a case study in the debate between religious freedom and historic preservation.*

In a fifteen-page judgment dated 5 October 1995, Judge Donald E. Shelton ruled against the Presbyterian Church's appeal of the Ypsilanti HDC's 21 September 1993 decision denying their application for demolition of the historic Towner house. In doing so, he ruled that the church's charge against the HDC for "arbitrary and capricious" actions in a position of undue hardship by denying the demolition request and that the HDC's petition for an order to remedy the ongoing "demolition by neglect" is lawfully based upon the same evidence presented in connection with the demolition application.

This decision tested several provisions of the recently revised state enabling legislation and has precedent-setting implications for historic district commissions statewide.

The case played out against a history of differences between the church and the city dating from 1974, two years after the Presbyterians purchased the house and its one-and-a-half-lot parcel at the rear of their own property. At that time they vacated the building, and their board passed a motion to demolish the structure. Recognizing the historic significance of this Greek Revival house, believed to date from 1837 and associated with several prominent Ypsilanti residents, a small but vocal group of concerned citizens moved to block the demolition by forming the Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation. A series of lease agreements was arranged in which the Foundation assumed some financial support for the house and even for half its demolition if another site could not be found for its planned removal. In 1978 the City of Ypsilanti, in accordance with Michigan's "Local Historic Districts Act" established an historic district which included the Towner house. The local ordinance provides for demolition only if a) the structure constitutes a hazard, b) is a deterrent to a program of substantial benefit to the community, c) will cause undue hardship to its owner, or d) is not in the community's interest.

In January 1992 and again in September 1993, the church applied to the Ypsilanti HDC for permission to demolish the Towner house. In spite of good faith suggestions for compromise which included *bona fide* purchase offers and/or division of the parcel to provide space for the church's needs, the church declined to consider alternatives to demolition.

At the public hearings of both applications, the church showed a videotape to support its claim that the house had become irreparable. The Ypsilanti HDC denied the applications and further ruled that, with the tape, the church had provided overwhelming evidence of the property's deterioration, and it was consequently cited by the city for "demolition by neglect."

In Michigan an applicant dissatisfied with a decision of the local HDC may appeal to the Michigan State Historic Preservation Review Board, which the church did in December 1993. The appeal process includes a formal hearing by the Department of State's Hearing Division, after which the attorney who handled the hearing prepares a recommendation for the Review Board. In the case of the Towner house appeal, the hearing officer's recommendation was that the local finding of "demolition by neglect" was not an appealable issue for the State to hear, but that the HDC had acted in accordance with state law and local ordinance and had not acted "arbitrarily, unreasonably, or capriciously." The Review Board adopted the recommendation and denied the Church's appeal on 11 March 1994.

The church then filed an appeal in the Washtenaw County Circuit Court a month later. Meantime, the City filed an action to enforce the "demolition by neglect" repair order, and the church filed counterclaims against the City, the Heritage Foundation, and a signer of one of the old leases (who not coincidentally had now become Chair of the Ypsilanti HDC). All efforts to resolve the dispute failed, including those of a court-appointed mediator, and the parties each filed cross motions for summary disposition.

Judge Shelton's ruling demonstrated a comprehensive review of the case's chronology and of all applicable case law, including *Penn Central v. City of New York*, *First United Methodist Church of Seattle v. Hearing Examiner for the Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board*, *St. Bartholomew's Church v. City of New York*, *Maher v. City of New Orleans*, *Buttnick v. City of Seattle*, *Buttleman v. St. Retirement System*, *Bannan v. City of Saginaw*, and *Caddell v. Ecourse Bd. Of Education*. Furthermore, his conclusions confirm the importance of the legal process in deciding issues between legally delegated governmental bodies and individual property owners. In that connection, the importance of the Preservation Review Board's function cannot be overlooked.

In a nutshell, the Review Board's authority allows them to make only three possible decisions; 1) to affirm, 2) to modify or 3) to set aside a commission's decision and, where appropriate, to order a commission to issue a Certificate of Appropriateness or a Notice to Proceed. In setting aside a

*(continued on page 4, Ypsilanti's Towner House)*

## EMU Team Wins Grant to Implement a National Register Pilot Program in Michigan - *The National Register Community Assistance Program*

By Heather Richards

### **The National Register Community Assistance Program:**

Recently a team of Eastern Michigan University (EMU) historic preservation graduate students (Amy Arnold, Jim Gabbert, Laura Manker, John Murphey, and Heather Richards) were chosen to implement a National Council for Preservation Education (NCPE) / National Park Service (NPS) pilot program called the National Register of Historic Places Community Assistance Program (NRCAP). The NRCAP is viewed as a two-part program. First, the team is researching and writing a National Register Historic District nomination for two rural villages in Michigan (Concord, Jackson County, and Homer in Calhoun County) and then working with each community on leveraging those nominations towards further opportunities, such as:

- encouraging community pride and cohesiveness;
- implementing educational programs in the school systems;
- promoting historic district organizations;
- exploring downtown revitalization programs;
- identifying heritage tourism possibilities.

The National Park Service hopes that this pilot project will establish a model program of partnerships and pro-active preservation planning in rural communities. The purpose of the Community Assistance Program is to provide preservation services to communities that might not otherwise be able to afford them, and to provide practical experience for students of historic preservation.

The Community Assistance Program revolves around the belief that with dwindling resources and increased needs, interagency partnership is vital to the success of any historic preservation program. The EMU team is working closely with the Keeper of the National Register, Carol Shull and the Michigan State Historic Preservation Officer, Dr. Kathryn Eckert.

### **A Progress Report:**

The team started working with Homer and Concord in January, 1996. First, a Public Informational Meeting was held in each community to introduce residents to the National Register Community Assistance Program and the National Register of Historic Places. Then, since the community is a very important partner in this program, as the team started to research the Historic District nomination, a *Calendar of Events* was established for each community inviting interested residents to participate in and learn about the National Register nomination researching and writing process. These events included: *A Storytelling Session*; *Delineating the Historic District Boundaries Session*; and a *Working Walking Tour of the Proposed Historic District*. Throughout this process, news releases for the local media updated each community on their respective nomination. Drafts of the nominations are now in the State Office of Historic Preservation, and the team hopes that the nominations will be included on the June 7 State Review Board agenda.

Although, the National Register Community Assistance Program is viewed as a two-part program, the second phase of the project began at the First Public Informational Meeting. A committee was formed in each community. This committee was asked to meet bi-monthly to discuss such issues as the nomination process itself and how the community would like to utilize the nomination towards other opportunities.

One very important first step was identifying goals and objectives to pursue in the five month duration of the project. With the aide of the team members these goals were chosen and voted on by each respective committee. Concord chose to pursue two goals: 1) investigating the feasibility of a downtown revitalization program; and 2) exploring the possibilities of heritage tourism promotion. Homer chose only one goal - to increase local awareness and appreciation of Homer's historic heritage.

### ***Ypsilanti's Towner House*** (continued from page 3)

commission's decision for relief (of the appeal) on one or more of the following circumstances: that the Commission exceeded its legal authority, that it acted in a "arbitrary or capricious" manner, or that it committed some other substantial or material error of law. Finally, when, in the Review Board's view, a Commission has reached a correct decision, relief should not be granted.

The process is the key. It begins at the local level, and in this case, its indisputability has been confirmed on both the State level and in the County Circuit Court as well. If, as some

suspect, the church's tactics are based on a belief that enough delay may cancel their responsibility when the building collapses, Presbyterians might do well to weigh the strength and longevity of timber-frame construction against the impermanence of funds used for legal costs. Surely the time has come to move beyond the dispute and find a solution that preserves the house at the same time that it enhances the church assets.

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*Editor's Note: On March 19, 1996 the church again applied to move or demolish the Towner house. A public hearing on the issue will be held on April 16, 1996 at 7:00 PM at the Ypsilanti City Hall.*

## GOOD PLACES TO LIVE AND WORK

### 16th Annual Michigan Preservation Conference

April 19 - 21, 1996

### Ann Arbor, Michigan

By Janet Kreger

The University of Michigan's Ann Arbor campus is the site of the Michigan Historic Preservation Network's 16th Annual Preservation Conference. Schedule for April 19 and 20, the statewide conference is presented by the Network, the Office of the University Planner of the University of Michigan, the City of Ann Arbor Historic District Commission, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

The objective of Good Places to Live and Work is to give both new and seasoned preservationists fresh insights on how historic preservation is being used to give their communities that "something special" that makes them stand out. To fulfill that objective, the conference includes two tracks and over fifty speakers from around the state.

Track I addresses basic "How to" topics such as getting an eligible property listed on the State and National Registers, choosing the right property to rehabilitate, and going before the local historic district commission for project approval. Interior and exterior color schemes and painting techniques are discussed. For the first time at a Network conference, experts speak on how to work with historic interiors and furnishings. Saturday's participants in Track I have an intensive, three-hour training session on doing major and minor work in keeping with the Secretary's Standards.

Track II looks at what is new in the field of historic preservation. Environmentally sound preservation practice, current property rights, preservation efforts on historic college campuses, well-running local ordinances, perspectives on the conservation of entire urban and rural landscapes, and federal investment tax credit use are the issues explored in-depth with Michigan Experts.

The conference is ideal for homeowners, commercial and industrial property owners, students, government officials, people in the building trades, realtors, bankers, and preservation volunteers and professionals. Each can tailor a program that best suits his or her needs.

The Ann Arbor conference has a wide array of special events planned. At Friday's lunch, participants are greeted by Anne Duderstadt, First Lady of U of M and the Honorable Ingrid Sheldon, Mayor of the City of Ann Arbor. Richard Moe, President of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, is the luncheon keynote speaker. His presentation, "Strong Roots, Sturdy Branches: The Importance of State and Local Preservation Organizations" will include a questions-and-answers period. His participation is sponsored by the

Michigan Architectural Foundation, the Michigan Historical Center, Society Bank, and Great Lakes Bancorp.

Friday evening is highlighted by the first Preservation Ball, a benefit event for the Network to help support its 1996-97 programming. Period costume is welcome. Beginning at 6 PM and lasting until midnight, the Ball includes cash bar reception, dinner, and late-night coffee and dessert buffet. Participants and guests will have the opportunity to bid on silent auction items that range from an all expense paid package to the 1997 Statewide Conference to historic train posters and hand carved works of art. Music is provided by the Morris Lawrence III Ensemble, an Ann Arbor dance band. The evening is capped by the Annual Historic Preservation Awards.

Saturday opens with Preservation on the Run, an opportunity for conference participants to take a brisk guided jog around historic Ann Arbor before morning sessions begin. A luncheon followed by the Network's Annual Meeting, and an afternoon filled with study tours of U of M's Historic Central Campus, Downtown Ann Arbor, and the Old West Side residential Historic District, complete the conference.

All conference activities take place at the Women's League and the Men's Union, both designed by Pond and Pond of Chicago. Special overnight rates are available at the Women's League and the nearby Campus Inn. A list of local bed and breakfasts is also available. Parking is in university and city structures in and around central campus.

Conference fees - which range from \$40 to \$125 and include continental buffet breakfasts, morning and afternoon breaks, lunches, keynote presentation, study tour, and participant packet - are designed to accommodate participation for either on or both days. A special fee is available for students and a 10 percent discount is available for two or more registrants from the same community of organization. The Network is pleased that these fees are the same as for its 1994 and 1996 conferences. The Preservation Ball is priced separately as a benefit event but discounted for conference participants; outside guests pay \$85.

For more information and a conference brochure, contact the MHPN, PO Box 398, Clarkston, MI 48347-0398, or telephone (810) 625-8181.

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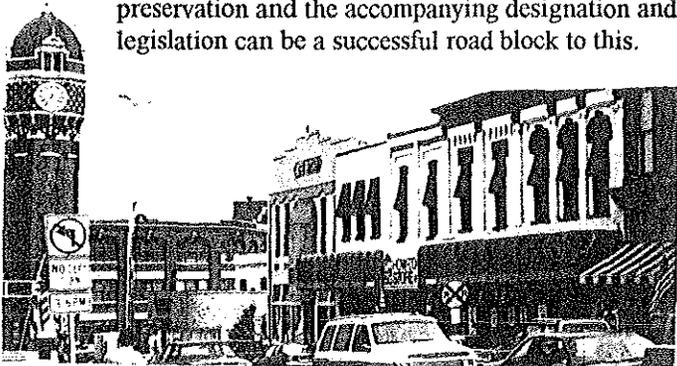
*Editor's Note: Volunteers are still needed. Volunteer between sessions and pay only for the lunch that day!! If interested contact Louisa Pieper of the City of Ann Arbor.*

## Why Does Chelsea Need Historic Preservation?

By Robert Burg

Picture a scene where M-52 is three or four lanes wide, there are no large shade trees along Main Street, the McKune House has been replaced by a glass and steel building and where the Welfare building was located there is now a parking lot. Sounds pretty bleak doesn't it? Although the above is very unlikely, it is possible that one or more of these could happen in the village of Chelsea without adequate protection.

Currently there is a debate over a bypass of M-52 around the village of Chelsea. The worry is that this would draw potential consumers out of downtown. An alternative, that the Michigan Department of Transportation (M-DOT) has suggested is to widen M-52 to support the increased traffic. If you think this is a good idea then consider the loss of shade trees, street parking, and even buildings, because with a widened roadway, many of the historic buildings would be in the way, or close to the new road. Although a group of community leaders are working on an alternative (the bypass), if M-DOT decided on widening the road there is very little the Chelsea could do to prevent it. Historic preservation and the accompanying designation and legislation can be a successful road block to this.



We all enjoy going to the McKune Memorial Library in the stately brick mansion on Main Street. You might check out books or videos there, or enjoy going to their fabulous book sale during the sidewalk festival. Whatever your reason for visiting the library, can you imagine Chelsea without the McKune House? Currently there is an important debate going on that could effect the building's future, and that is the District Library issue. There is obviously a need for an expanded library: it is getting too small for the growing community and it is serving more than just the village. The question is that the deed of the building states that it can only be used as a village library. If the library becomes a district library, can it stay in the current building, and if so, will the building be expanded to where the library no longer looks like the mansion built by Elisha Congdon, one of Chelsea's founding fathers, or the hotel that served the community for nearly eighty years? With Historic Preservation, the building can remain in use for many more years to come. If as a library or under some other use, the building would remain an important landmark for the community.



Like the McKune House, the Welfare Building has a future that is in jeopardy. The ornate building next to the Clock tower and the railroad tracks has a history dating to 1907 when it was built as an employee recreation building for the Glazier Stove Company. Although it's original use did not last long the building has had many uses since then. The most recent and longest use has been as the home of the Chelsea Standard, our local weekly newspaper. From 1962, until late last year Walter and Helen Leonard published the paper in this building, only ending when they sold the paper to Heritage Newspapers. Since the sale, the newspaper is no longer published in this building. The big question is what will go into this building. There are many rumors and suggestion circulating, among them that the Village will buy the building and convert it into the Village offices. I don't know if this is true, but it does show the need to protect this building. It is ironic that there is a village ordinance that is supposed to protect this building: Ordinance no. 87, Historic Preservation District, Commission, and Regulation. This was placed on the books in 1980 and the only historic district that was created was the Welfare Building. The problem is, is that there is no Historic District Commission in place to govern the ordinance. Because of this, a future owner could bulldoze this important landmark if he so chooses.

While Historic Preservation will not cure all of our ills, it is a positive solution to many problems. Chelsea is a town where you do not have to worry about your children playing outside and where you can sit on your front porch and visit with your neighbors. In too many places, this is now just a fantasy, maybe with Historic Preservation we can keep this a reality in Chelsea for someone to come.

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*Robert Burg, a second year graduate student in the EMU Historic Preservation Program wrote this essay for the inaugural newsletter of Preservation Chelsea, a new Historic Preservation organization in the village of Chelsea, Michigan. The mission of Preservation Chelsea is to promote historic preservation in the community and to re-establish a historic district ordinance and historic district commission in Chelsea.*

## ♠ BULLETIN BOARD ♠

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**State Historical Society of Wisconsin: *Breaking New Ground on Old Building III; Historic Architecture and Landscapes in Wisconsin and Minnesota*** - Madison, Wisconsin, April 13, 1996. Keynote speaker John C. Hudson, Professor of Geography at Northwestern University. Sessions include: Expressions on the Agricultural Landscape and Preservation Planning. Contact Marie North (608) 264-6498.

**Michigan Historic Preservation Network: *Good Places to Live and Work*** - Ann Arbor, Michigan, April 19, 20. Keynote speaker, Richard Moe, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Contact Louisa Pieper, (313) 996-3008.

**Michigan Stained Glass Census: *A Program on Michigan's Stained Glass Windows and Walking tour of Stained Glass Windows in Historic Lansing Churches*** - Lansing, Michigan, April 20. Slide illustrated talks by Betty MacDowell and Barbara Krueger, luncheon and afternoon tour of windows. Contact: (517) 627-8973. Registration Fee: \$8.50.

**Ohio SHPO and Ohio Historical Society: *Building Successful Communities; Preservation and Economic Development*** - Akron, Ohio, May 1 - May 3. Speakers include, Lieutenant Governor Nancy Hollister. Workshops include, Sound Foundations for Downtown Development, and Heritage Tourism and Economic Development. Contact: (614) 297-2470.

**National Historic Preservation Week, *Preserve Community, May 12 - May 18.***

**Michigan History Week, *Putting the World on Wheels, May 18 - May 27.***

**Pioneer America Society: *Annual Meeting- Austin, Texas, November 7-9, 1996.*** Two concurrent sessions of papers and a field trip into the multiethnic region of Austin, a fascinating and varied cultural landscape. Contact Terry Jordan or Jennifer Helzer, (512) 471-5049.

**Pioneer American Society: *First Call for Papers for Annual Meeting.*** Submit a title and 1/2 page, single spaced abstract no later than September 1st to: Terry Jordan, Dept. Of Geography, University of Texas, Austin, TX, 78712-1098, Fax: (512) 471-5049, e-mail, tgjordan@mail.utexas.edu.

### ALUMNI NEWS:

**Weddings and Babies:** Ina Hanel-Gerdenich and her husband welcomed Rudolph Joseph to their family on March 2, 1996.

**New Positions:** Kirk Huffaker has obtained a position as "architectural historian" with Mead & Hunt, Inc., an engineering firm in Madison, Wisconsin.

**Chris Owen** has moved on from his initial placement with MSI, Inc. in Toledo, to become executive director of the Downtown Development Corporation in Youngstown, Ohio.

**Heather Richards** has recently been selected as Main Street Manager for Baker City, Oregon.

**Diane Wilson** has been appointed as "director" of the newly established Belleville Historical Museum in nearby Belleville, Michigan.

#### Goings-On:

**Lisa Carey (Lussier, '95), Milan Downtown Development Coordinator Boosts Occupancy in Business District to 96%**

There have been a lot of changes in the past year in this city of some 10,000 people that straddles the border for Washtenaw and Monroe counties.

Lisa Carey, coordinator of the Milan Development Office, pointed to the retail improvements over the past year and said the focus in 1996 will be to attract companies to the city's new industrial park.

But the biggest improvement has been boosting the occupancy rate for Milan's business districts from 83 percent to 96 percent. That translates into 11 new businesses and a net gain of 34 employees.

Five new businesses have opened in the three commercial areas. "A variety store and restaurants, especially a Chinese restaurant is what everyone wants to see here, according to our surveys," Carey said.

Along with the new businesses, Carey said that nine existing businesses have updated or renovated recently, creating a major change in the downtown area since she began working for the city over two years ago. Those updates range from restored windows to the removal of aluminum siding, painting store fronts and adding awnings.

*(Excerpted from Ann Arbor News, March 2, By Susan Okonski.)*

**WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU - TELL US WHERE YOU ARE AND WHAT YOU ARE DOING.**

## Membership Counts! Join Preservation Eastern

Why join Preservation Eastern? Well, it's the best way to keep up on historic preservation activities both within the department and throughout the area. We're planning guest speakers, lecture series, activities, events and trips for the upcoming year, so join now and keep informed with the *Preservation Eastern Newsletter* which will be mailed to all current members. Dues are only \$10 per year, and your membership and involvement will insure future growth and success in the organization. For more information, contact Kirsten Merriman or any other Preservation Eastern officer.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Program of Study: \_\_\_\_\_

Attach a check or money order for \$10, and mail to:

Preservation Eastern  
EMU Department of Geography and Geology  
Historic Preservation Program  
Strong Hall  
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197

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