# KALAMAZOO HISTORIC HOMES TOUR JULY 19 & 20, 1986





# **1986 HISTORIC HOMES TOUR COMMITTEE**

Jean Bright: chairperson, Michael Dunn, Lynn Houghton, Annette Conti, Karen Leys, Esther Furgason, Lois Hudson, Graydon Meints, Linda Meints, Wade Robinson, Bill Furgason, Jim Cavender, Marsha Meyer

#### HOUSE CO-ORDINATORS

Esther Furgason: chairperson, Lynn Houghton, Jan DeLeeuw, Jim Cavender, Rosemary Hubek, Gerry Myers, Margery Kelly, Mary Boley, Jeffrey Bright, Linda Meints, Marie McKinley, Richard Hudson, Ellen Byrnes, Corinne Galles, Elaine Menqie

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Michael Dunn-Graphic Design and Cover Illustration Flowerfest, All Participating Florists, Loveley's Green House Kathy Griffin-Window Display Lynn Smith Houghton, Kim McBride, Catherine Larsen-Research Marsha Meyer, Amy Larrow-House Descriptions Becky Marvin-Media Distribution Jan DeLeeuw-Co-ordinator of Craft People Gina Strohm-Flower Idea Person Wallace Cook-Gazebo Set Up Robert St. John-Banner Distribution Jacobson's, Gilmore's, Koopsen Mary Jane Ross, Graydon Meints-Ticket sales

The Historic Homes Tour Committee would like to acknowledge our appreciation to these businesses for advance ticket sales. Fidelity Federal, Louie's Pipe Shop, Giftloft, Gilmore's, Pati's Hallmark, Stuart Ave. Bed and Breakfast, Dons Card Hut

Special Thanks to all tour guides and volunteers from the Historical Society, the First Congregational Church, The Civic Theatre and the community at large. This tour would not be possible without the help of over 300 volunteers.

A VERY SPECIAL THANKS to the home owners who generously open their Historic Homes for two days so a great number of people can view a part of Kalamazoo heritage.



# ARCHITECTURAL STYLES



#### **ITALIANATE** 1860-1880

This style, inspired by the stately rural Italian villas of the period, is known for its height and symmetry. The windows and entrances are long, narrow, and occasionally in pairs. They sometimes have decorative moldings around them. Roofs are lowpitched with fanciful brackets under the eaves. Some Italianates are topped by a cupola or a belvedere. Bay windows at the sides of the house are typical.

#### QUEEN ANNE 1880-1900

The Queen Anne style reflected the feeling of individualism and affluence that was prevalent in this country. These homes are very asymmetrical with wings, balconies, gables, towers and bay windows. Windows were all shapes and sizes, and roofs were high. Texture is the dominant decorative element. Types of siding patterns and cut shingles, including "fish-scales" are used. Mass produced gingerbread and decorative spindles are used to create elaborate porches.

#### DUTCH COLONIAL REVIVAL 1900-1930

In an attempt to reflect a more simple life through architecture, the Dutch Colonial Revival was started. The roof is generally a gambrel or barn-like shape. Its origins are in seventeenth century architecture from New England and New York. These homes are typically of wood and painted in earthtones. There are often cresent or cut-out ornamental windows in both upper gables, sometimes serving no purpose except decoration. Windows usually are symmetrical and divided by muntins into a "four-overfour" pattern.



#### AMERICAN COLONIAL REVIVAL 1900-1930

The early twentieth century was too busy and too reliant upon machines for many people to be comfortable with their changing world. The American Colonial Revival borrowed styles of architecture popular after the American Revolution—Georgian and Federal. They are typically a four-square shape with symmetrical windows, shutters, and dormers. Roofs are either hipped or gabled. The windows are usually multipaned above one pane. Bay windows are popular. Columns, dentils, and pediments reflect the characteristics of the earlier styles. Some have verandahs or porches.

#### ENGLISH TUDOR OR ENGLISH COTTAGE STYLE 1900-1930

This style of architecture finds its origins in the simplicity of Elizabethan England. The facades of these homes are typically dominated with large steeply pitched gables. Stucco, half-timbering, fieldstones, and brick create a rustic appearance. Leaded casement windows, stained glass, porches, and chimneys are also predominant characteristics. These homes are always earthy looking with their dark wood, rough plaster, smaller rooms, and lower ceilings.

#### PICTURESQUE/PERIOD 1917-1930

The Picturesque or Period styles were actually convincing copies of traditional old-world houses, complete with every "modern" convenience. Between 1917 and 1930 copies of 16th century French farmhouses, English Cotswald cottages, Norman and Medieval English style houses were extremely popular.



# **KALAMAZOO COUNTY** HISTORICAL SOCIETY CELEBRATES UPJOHN COMPANY CENTENNIAL

This year's Historic Homes Tour pays a special tribute to the Upjohn Company, which is celebrating its centennial by featuring houses that were owned by Upjohn family members or individuals who have played a major role in the development of the Upjohn Company.

The Upjohn Company was founded by four brothers, one of whom, Dr. William E., had invented the friable pill, which improved the way medicines were delivered to the body.

Through the years, the Upjohn Company has progressed from a compounder of standard remedies to a research-driven, multi-national corporation that is the largest employer in Kalamazoo County. The Upjohn Company and the Upjohn family have had a tremendous impact on the development of this community.

Dr. William Upjohn did much to improve the quality of life in Kalamazoo. He gave freely and generously to churches, hospitals and cultural institutions. He was involved with local government and created the Kalamazoo Foundation, one of the twenty largest foundations in the nation that, along with the Upjohn Company, still carries out Dr. Upjohn's dreams.



### Original drawing by Michael Dunn 1 WOOD/UPJOHN HOUSE 530 West South 1878 Italianate

Owners: American Red Cross

Excitement raced over Kalamazoo when banker, William Wood announced he was building a new home in 1877 because he promised to use both local materials and local labor. It took 15 months to complete this fine house at a cost of \$25,000 and contained such modern conveniences as hot and cold running water, a central furnace, and a cement sidewalk. There were 19 rooms in all with imported French windows, all still in place.

Dr. W.E. Upjohn bought the house in 1905. During these years the Upjohn Company was struggling to make a profit, and its founder bought this impressive house to symbolize to the community that all was going well with the company.

Dr. Upjohn's first wife died in 1905 and eight years later, he married Mrs. Carrie Gilmore, a widow, who lived next door. She continued to live in this house after Dr. Upjohn's death in 1932.

In 1968, the house was given to the City of Kalamazoo, and was used for offices and meeting space by various groups. In 1982 the house was given to the American Red Cross, who did extensive restoration, returning the house to its original splendor. It has become once more, as the Kalamazoo Telegraph described it in 1878, "one of the best and most commodious homes in the west."

> Quilting Demonstrations by members of Log Cabin Quilters Flower arrangements by Flowerette Florist





## Original drawing by Michael Dunn 2 BARTLETT/UPJOHN HOUSE 229 Stuart

1886

Queen Anne

Owners: Bill and Andy Casteel

Edgar Bartlett was not yet thirty years old when he built this massive Queen Anne home, a style which was very popular in this growing neighborhood. At that time, Bartlett was both secretary and business manager of the Kalamazoo Publishing Company who produced one of the city's two newspapers, the *Telegraph*. Bartlett sold the house five years later to James Henry for \$7,100. Henry had made his fortune manufacturing agricultural implements, an important industry in Kalamazoo after the Civil War.

In 1907 the house was sold to Dr. James T. Upjohn, one of the four brothers who founded the Upjohn Pill and Granule Company. James Upjohn became production manager of the company but sold his interest in the company in 1909. He eventually served in the Michigan legislature for ten years as both a representative and state senator. He died in 1936.

After a series of owners, the house was divided into apartments by 1952. The present owners, who also own the Stuart Avenue Bed and Breakfast, bought the home in 1985 and turned it into executive relocation apartments.

> Antique quilts throughout the house furnished by Sally Marsh Spinning Demonstration: Kathy McCarthy, Karen Friend Flower Arrangements by Longjohn Florist



Original drawing by Michael Dunn

# **3 HARVEY/MACLEOD HOUSE**

#### 204 Monroe 1911 Dutch Colonial Revival Owners: George and Linda Macleod

Dr. Leroy Harvey came to Kalamazoo in 1908 to chair the Biology Department at Western State Normal School, now Western Michigan University. Three years later his new house, designed by local architect Forrest VanVolkenberg, was completed. Many Western professors lived in this area which was not far from the campus.

In 1926, Marvin Schaberg, a lawyer and one-time city attorney, moved into the house. He sold the home in 1945 to Dr. A. Garrard Macleod, who worked at Upjohn for twenty-five years as a senior staff physician. Dr. Macleod came to Upjohn in 1939, eventually becoming the editor of in-house publications and *Scope*, a journal for physicians that contained articles on topics of interest written by the medical experts of the day. He also did other work relating to advertising and marketing displays for conferences and fairs, and even the Upjohn Pharmacy in Disneyland. He died in 1972 and his wife, Margaret, continued to live in the house until her death in 1983. Their son, George, and his family now reside here.

Flower arrangements by Schafers Flowers



Scanned with CS CamScanner



Original drawing by Richard Wordell

### **4 LIGHT HOUSE**

1201 Short Road 1926

English Tudor Owners: Western Michigan University Present Residents: Dr. and Mrs. Diether Haenicke

Dr. S. Rudolph Light came to Kalamazoo in 1904 to work at the Kalamazoo State Hospital. Three years later he joined the Upjohn Company and eventually became general manager and vice-president. He married Dr. W.E. Upjohn's oldest daughter, Winifred, in 1908 and this house was completed for them in 1926.

Local architect Howard Young designed the structure. He also was the architect for many other Upjohn homes including one for Dorothy Upjohn Dalton, Winifred's sister at 1130 Short Road. Winifred Light died in 1929 and Rudolph continued to live here until his death in 1961. The house was then rented to several people and sold to Western Michigan University in 1974 to serve as a residence for the President and family.

> Quilting Bee, demonstration of traditional quilting, by the Log Cabin Quilters on the patio. Flower arrangements by Flipse Florist



Original drawing by Richard Wordell

**5 SCHREIBER HOUSE** 

2004 Benjamin 1932 Picturesque Owners: Michael and Susan Nave

Completed in 1932, this house was built for Frank Merkle, president and general manager of the Merkle Dairy Company. He only lived here for approximately three years and sold it to Gerald Rosenbaum who was affiliated with the Kalamazoo Pant Company.

The longest resident was Dr. & Mrs. Richard Schreiber, who purchased the house in 1950. One year earlier, Dr. Schreiber had come to Kalamazoo to work in the Research Division at Upjohn. By 1950 he was named Vice-President and Director for Research and elected to the Board of Directors. He retired in 1970 and Dr. & Mrs. Schreiber continued to live in this house until 1981.

Flower Arrangements by VanderSalm's Florist





Original drawing by Marilyn Westgerdes

# 6 VARNEY/LUDLOW HOUSE

2210 Crane 1941

Colonial Revival Owners: Gilbert and Barbara Smith

This traditional Colonial Revival house was built in 1941 for Dr. & Mrs. Franklin Varney. Varney was the Upjohn Company first personnel director. Dr. Varney, a Universalist minister, was hired in 1913. He was responsible for hiring all employees and for carrying out a number of welfare activities. He continued to work for the Upjohn Company for the next thirty-one years.

In 1964, Charles Ludlow and family moved into the house. Ludlow began at Upjohn in 1950 as an accountant trainee and later attained the position of vice-president and treasurer, retiring in 1984. He also has served as a trustee for Western Michigan University since 1967. The present owners, Mr. & Mrs. Smith, bought the house in 1984.

Visit Crane Park to view the beautiful perennial gardens. The Park is one half block North.

Flower arrangements by Riverside Greenhouses



# 7 FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 129 South Park

1928 English Gothic

This congregation has been located on this site since 1852. The present church building, completed in 1928, is an example of English Gothic architecture and was designed by Aymar Embury II who also designed the Civic Auditorium. Dr. W.E. Upjohn was a long-time member of this church and donated money to have the building rebuilt after a fire in 1925 destroyed an earlier structure. The Memorial Window was donated by Dr. Upjohn's children in memory of their mother, Rachel Babcock Upjohn, and the South Window was donated by Dr. Upjohn in memory of his son, William Harold who died in 1928. The pipe organ and echo organ were gifts to the church from Dr. Upjohn and his second wife, Carrie.

This congregation celebrated 150 years as the first Congregational Church in Kalamazoo in 1985.

Scanned with CS CamScanner



#### Original drawing by Anne Goodrich

## **8 CIVIC AUDITORIUM**

329 South Park 1931

Designed by Aymar Embury II, the Civic Auditorium is one of Kalamazoo's most unique structures. The exterior of the building was to look like a circus tent, one of the first forms of entertainment. It provided a needed home for both the Civic Players and the Kalamazoo Symphony. Dr. W.E. Upjohn spent \$300,000 to buy the land and finance its construction as his gift to the city. He said the building was dedicated to, "the happy use of leisure," a theme which was carried throughout many of his philanthropic projects. After its completion, the Civic Auditorium was described in the *New York Times* as, "the loveliest and most complete theatre in the country."

Quilt Show "Tradition Revisited" traditional patterns with a contemporary look, recent work by Elaine Seaman, in the Civic Lounge.

# KALAMAZOO COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

We invite you to become a member of the Kalamazoo County Historical Society.

The Society was formed in 1948 to preserve and promote an awareness and understanding of Kalamazoo's historical heritage.

The Society works toward this goal in a number of ways:

- · holds monthly membership meetings.
- conducts an annual historic homes tour.
- publishes new historical research.
- · reprints books of historical importance to our area.
- sponsors seminars and meetings on topics of historical interest.
- · sponsors trips to points of historical interest.
- supports the activities of other area local historical societies.
- supports other groups interested in preserving aspects of local history.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION	
Kalamazoo County Historical Society 315 South Rose Street Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007	
<ul> <li>New member</li> <li>Renewal</li> <li>Individual membership \$5.00</li> <li>Gift \$</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Family membership \$10.00</li> <li>Sustaining member \$25.00</li> </ul>
Name	
Address	
Phone	
Interests	
Please make checks payable to:	
Kalamazoo County Historical Society	
A membership in KCHS entitles you to a Joint Membership in the Historical Society of Michigan.	
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# **BRONSON PARK**

Bronson Park was originally two lots of land given to the county in 1831 by Titus Bronson, the first settler in Kalamazoo, for use as a jail and academy. He also gave the lots to the north for the courthouse and first four churches surrounding the park. It wasn't long before Church Street was discontinued between Academy and South Streets, and the park began to take shape. Trees were planted and a fence was built in 1864, and the first fountain was installed in 1880. The park has been the site for rallies and speeches, the most famous one given by Abraham Lincoln on August 27, 1856, which was the first and only time he spoke in Michigan. Initially, large homes encircled the park until the 1920's when these were replaced with civic and religious structures. The present fountain on the east side of the park, completed in 1940, is entitled, "Fountain of the Pioneers", and was designed by Alfonso Ianelli. The fountain at the west side is called "Children at Play" and was dedicated for the Bicentennial. It was designed by local artist, Kirk Newman.

# CRANE PARK

Located at the top of Westnedge Hill, Crane Park has had a reputation for being a garden showcase. It originally was a farm owned in 1840 by Martin Heydenburk. A section of the land was acquired by the city in 1886; the other part was given to Kalamazoo in 1908 by Edgar Crane, a local lawyer, who lived just to the south. The city enlarged the park once more in 1915 to West Street (now Westnedge) from Betsy-Ann Place. The gardens were first developed in the late 1930s by workers paid through the federal Works Progress Administration. The park quickly became known for its color, design, and floral variety. It was stocked entirely with plants carried by nurseries in the area with the purpose of showing local residents how they might landscape their own yards. Currently, the flower beds are maintained by several local garden clubs and interested individuals.

KALAMAZOO COUNTY

# RESEARCHING AN OLD HOUSE

# IN RESEARCHING a house, you are looking for answers to questions

such as the following:

- Who built the house and when?
- What style is it?
- What did the house originally look like—inside and out?
- Who owned and lived in it?
- What were the cultural forces at work when the house was built?

#### ORAL HISTORY

- use a checklist
- · verify information in another source
- take notes
- · solicit photographs or drawings

#### DOCUMENTARY SOURCES

- Deeds or title abstracts (names and dates of owners)
- Building permit (name of owner, architect, builder, cost, floor plans, dates and

types of alterations)

- Plat books (date house was built, neighborhood development)
- City directories

   (names of owners, variances in street addresses, names of neighbors)

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE - useful for houses built before 1840. Look for

nails, screws, moldings, hinges, doors, house frame.

#### WHERE TO FIND THIS INFORMATION

- Western Michigan University Archives
- Kalamazoo Public Library
- Kalamazoo Public Museum
- Portage Public Library
- Kalamazoo Building Department
- Kalamazoo County Records Office
- Kalamazoo City Archives

Exerpts from: "How to Research and Date Your Old House." The Old House Journal

Compendium. New York: Overlook Press, 1980, pp. 47-48.

# Ticket, Guide and Map for: KALAMAZOO HISTORIC HOMES TOUR

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2

3

4

5

6

8

Wood/Upjohn House 530 West South

Bartlett/Upjohn House 229 Stuart

Harvey/Macleod House 204 Monroe

> Light House 1201 Short Road

Schreiber House 2004 Benjamin

Varney/Ludlow House 2210 Crane

First Congregational Church 129 South Park

> Civic Auditorium 329 South Park

Your cooperation is requested in refraining from smoking, drinking, eating or shooting photographs in the houses on tour.—Thank you!

