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SAGINAW COUNTY HISTORIC ASSETS

Saginaw County Metropolitan Planning Commission

July 1973

ABSTRACT

TITLE: Saginaw County Historic Assets

AUTHOR: Saginaw County Metropolitan Planning Commission

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ABSTRACT: This report summarizes historic preservation activities and legislation at the federal, state, and local levels. Although not a complete narrative of what is happening, the report does attempt to highlight the significant efforts.

The body of the report consists of an inventory of the outstanding historical features--including structures, sites, and commemorative markers--in Saginaw County. A brief narrative relating pertinent facts concerning the history and/or architecture of each feature is also included as well as a picture. A text of the recently adopted Saginaw County Historic District Commission Ordinance is also presented.

Saginaw County Historic Assets

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Historical Background

History of Saginaw County

Saginaw's history dates back nearly two thousand years to an era when the Salk and Chippewa Indians inhabited the area. Remains and artifacts of their civilization have been found at Crow Island, Green Point, and the Grove--all of which are believed to have been sites of villages.

It wasn't until 1675 that a white visitor entered the Saginaw Valley. He was Father Henri Nouvel, a Jesuit priest from St. Ignace, who made the journey here to visit the Chippewa Indians at their winter hunting grounds.

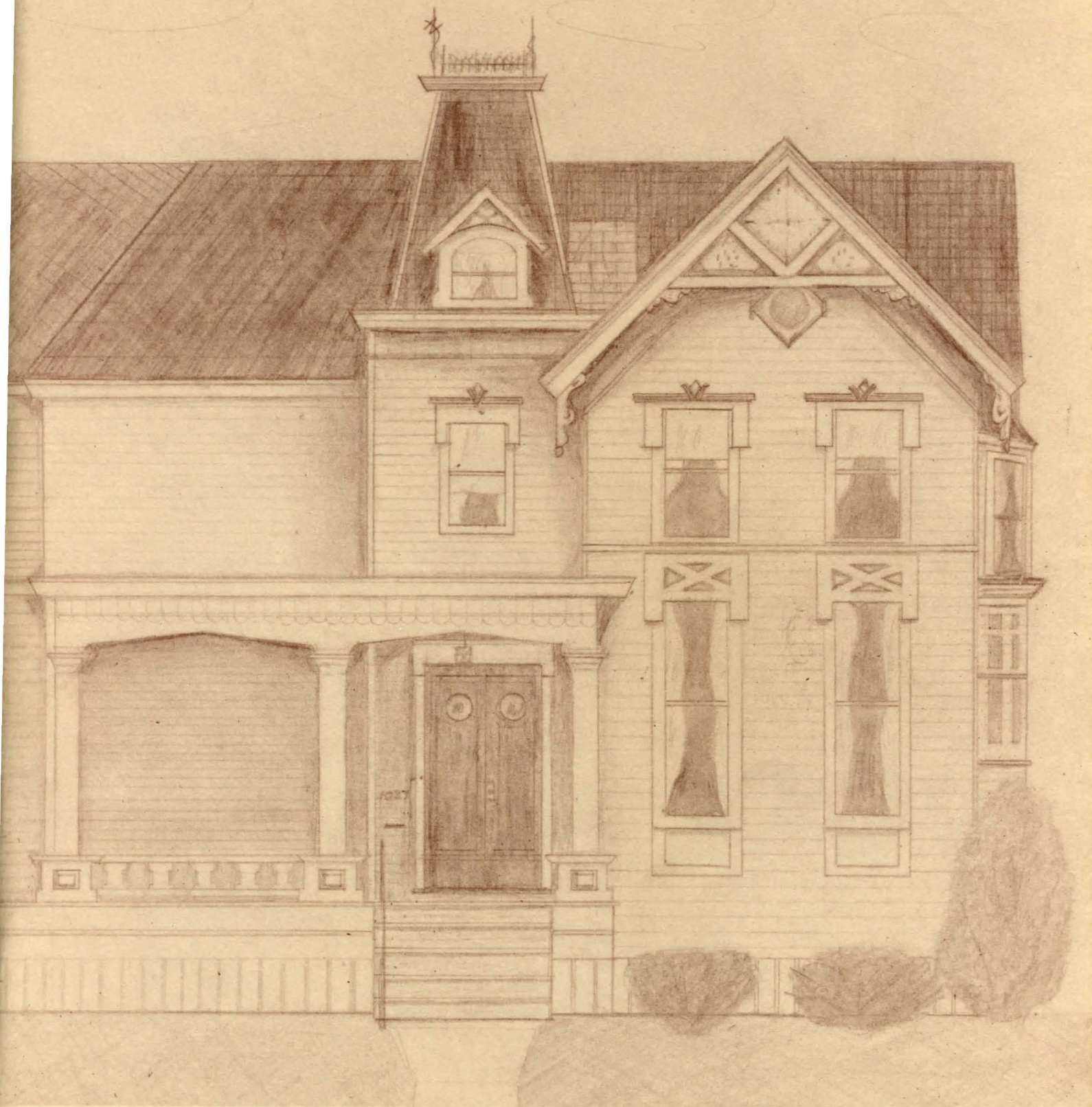
Perhaps, one of the most significant events in Saginaw history was the signing of the Cass Treaty or as it is also called, the Treaty of Saginaw. This treaty, between the United States Government and the Chippewa Indians, opened up a great deal of the midwest for settlement. Some six million acres of land were ceded to the government in the transaction.

Soon after the treaty had been signed, the government began selling the land to settlers, and families began to arrive. However, due to Indian harassment, a fort was established on the banks of the Saginaw River in 1822 to protect the residents of the area. Fort Saginaw wasn't occupied for very long by the military before it was abandoned due to the problem of disease carrying mosquitos. But the fort continued to provide shelter for the settlers and the settlers continued to come to the Saginaw area.

In the mid 1830's, the lumbering industry began in Saginaw--at first just to supply the needs of the local residents. The lumber industry soon started to flourish and Saginaw became one of the lumbering capitols of the nation. Shortly after the lumber "boom" in Saginaw, salt production became a profitable industry as well and Saginaw achieved status as a leading producer of salt. Both industries prospered for many years and then lumbering began to decline. With the demise of the lumber industry, salt production became a costly undertaking and soon it, too, began to dwindle.

Saginaw's future looked uncertain, Its economic structure was crumbling. Fortunately, however, several Saginaw citizens, recognizing the need for new industry, began to invest their capital in various operations. Furniture, match, and barrel factories were some of the new industries. Machine shops were established and later as the automobile industry began to expand, Saginaw became a part of it.

Today, Saginaw County is the home of several General Motors foundaries and manufacturing plants as well as numerous support industries and is a prospering community of over 200,000 people.



Preservation Efforts

Historic Preservation

Within the past 10 years, the complexion of and attitude toward historic preservation has changed significantly at all levels of government. Historic preservation planning and programming has gained much importance. Several factors are believed to have contributed to this increased appreciation for our historical landmarks.

- * Urban renewal has been responsible for the demolition of many noteworthy historical features in our cities.
- * Architects and planners have been remiss in making allowances for historically significant structures in their plans.
- * The resurgence of memorabilia collections as a hobby nationwide has increased our historical awareness.
- * Aesthetics and urban design, although indefinable to many, are becoming an important aspect of growth and development plans.

In light of these and other factors, steps have been taken at the federal, state, and local levels to foster historic preservation.

National Efforts

In 1966, the National Historic Preservation Act was passed. The act is designed to provide greater control over historic properties and make funds available for planning and restoration activities. The act also authorizes that a listing of significant historical sites, structures, and features be kept and that all features on this list will be eligible for federal assistance.

National Register

An important measure so far has been the creation, under Title I of the National Historic Preservation Act, of the National Register of Historic Places. Basically, inclusion on the Register protects a historic feature inasmuch as any federally financed project which might have an affect on the feature must be reviewed in terms of its potential adverse impact on the registered property.

This procedure is designed to insure that maximum consideration will be given to all possible alternatives before endangering a historic feature. The adverse affect may be in light of physical alterations or demolition or it may be simply an obstruction of the view or a detriment to the aesthetic value of the feature.

Several criteria have been established as guidelines for nomination to the National Register.

"The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects of national, State, and local importance that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and;

- * That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- * that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- * that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- * that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history."

Saginaw has two structures on the National Register - The East Side Post Office and the Passolt Home which serves as the county historical museum.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

The advisory council was established under Title II of the National Historic Preservation Act. Duties of the council include:

- * advising the President and Congress on matters relating to historic preservation
- * encouraging public interest and participation in historic preservation
- * recommending the conduct of studies
- * providing assistance to State and local governments in drafting legislation pertaining to historic preservation
- * encouraging training and education in the field of historic preservation
- * reviewing cases where a federally financed or licensed project may endanger a National Register site or structure or its environment

In all cases, the advisory council is required to work closely with other federal, State, and local agencies.

Membership on the council is comprised of several cabinet members as well as private citizens appointed by the President. The inclusion of the cabinet members helps to ensure the cooperation and coordination which is so essential.

One of the very important functions of the council is its review of potential impact on historical properties from projects funded or licensed by federal programs. Over the past few years, several prominent historical features have been saved from destruction or detrimental effects due to the efforts of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

National Trust for Historic Preservation

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is a public membership organization chartered by Congress. It is supported for the most part by private contributions.

The main objective of the organization is the preservation of sites, features, structures, and districts of historical or archeological significance. Activities of the National Trust include coordinating the efforts of public and private groups in the area of historic preservation. The staff of the National Trust provides technical assistance to members regarding various means of historic preservation planning. Several historic properties throughout the nation are maintained by the National Trust, as well.

State Efforts

Act 169

One of the most significant contributions to historic preservation made by the state has been Act 169 of the Public Acts of 1970.

This law provides for the:

- * creation of historic districts
- * acquisition of land and structures for historic purposes,
- * preservation of historic sites and structures,
- * creation of historic district commissions, and
- * maintenance of publicly owned historic sites and structures by local units of government.

In essence, the Act gives local units of government the power to preserve the significant historical features in a community.

Another important aspect of this Act is that it provides the means of preserving entire neighborhoods from deterioration or destruction through the use of the historic district. Such districts can encompass one structure or several blocks. Of course, not all the structures in a given district are likely to be of historical or architectural significance but through the use of the historic district, the integrity of the area as well as the existing or potential aesthetic value can be preserved.

Division of Michigan History

This agency was established in 1913 as an arm of the Department of State. It is the responsibility of the agency to operate the State Historical Museum and the State Archives. The agency staff is available to assist local units of government and interested groups in their preservation efforts.

Local Efforts

Until recently, attempts to preserve some of the significant remnants of Saginaw's past were minimal. The Saginaw County Historical Society was the only formalized group which had received major recognition in the community for its role in trying to preserve the memories of early Saginaw. However, even the Historical Society is limited, due to a scant budget, to operating the county historical museum and acquiring a few possessions here and there. It is impossible for them to acquire major properties and incur the cost of rehabilitation, maintenance, and operation.

In August of 1972, the Saginaw County Metropolitan Planning Commission began the initial phase of a historic preservation planning program. Several items have and soon will result from this program, one of which is this report. An explanation of the major elements follows.

Historic Site Inventory

In 1969, an inventory of historic sites and features was undertaken. The result was a list of forty-one features including homes, businesses, markers, and cemeteries. Last year this list was revised and updated. The new list which begins on page 7 of this report includes seventy features.

Historic Site Analysis

Although the site inventory does include a brief narrative and analysis of the significance of each feature, a more comprehensive analysis of the sites will be undertaken later this year. This analysis will address itself to specific questions concerning the historic value and potential worth of each feature.

Historic District Commission

On February 6, 1973, the Saginaw County Board of Commissioners established a Historic District Commission under Act 169 of the Michigan Public Acts of 1970. The Historic District Commission Ordinance (Appendix A) provides that:

- * an application be filed with the commission before any exterior changes are made on a structure within a historic district,
- * the commission can accept and apply for grants and other contributions, and
- * all historic preservation plans of cities, villages, and townships within Saginaw County must be submitted to the commission for review.

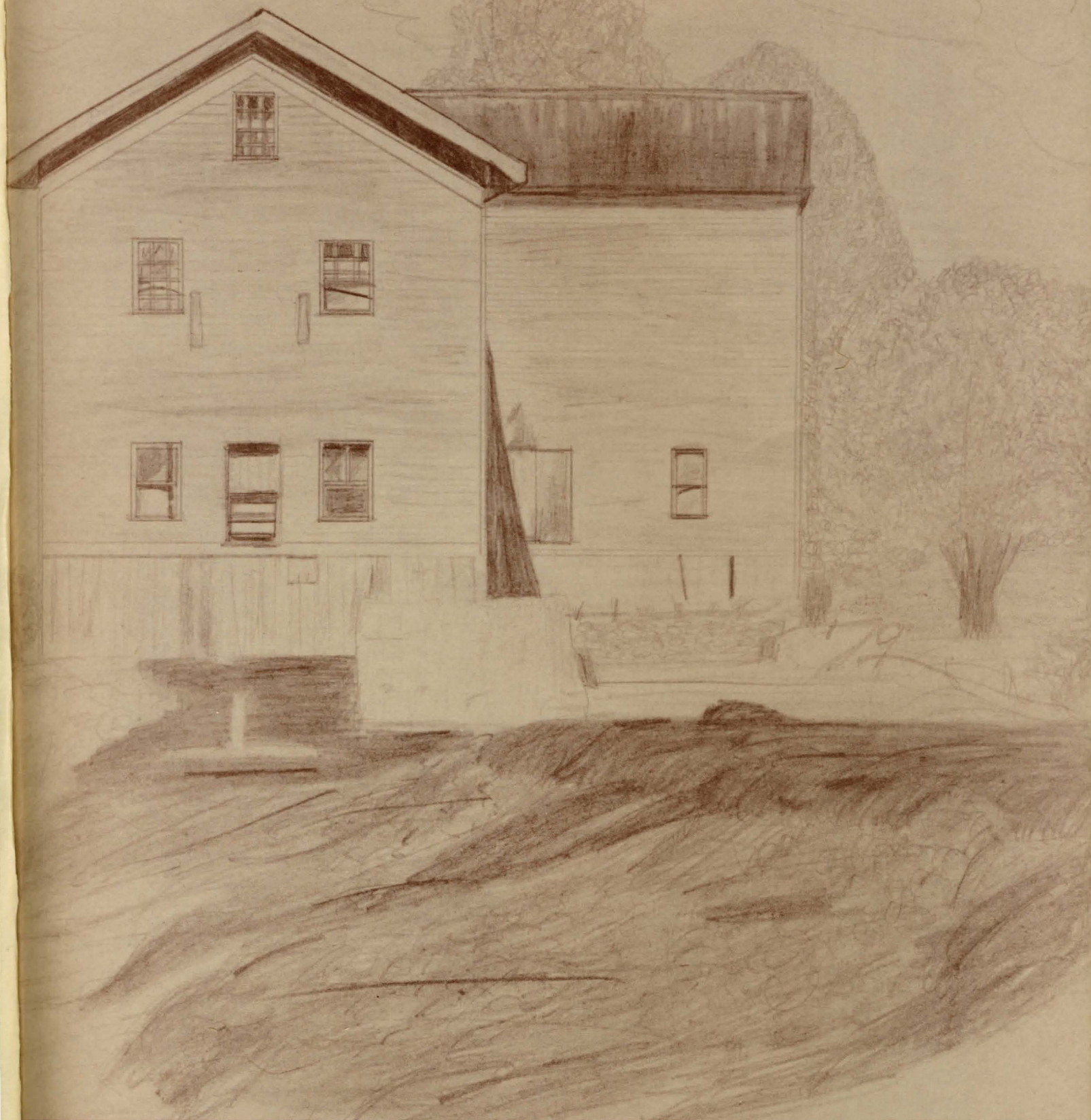
Historic District Ordinance

Upon completion of the site analysis mentioned above the Historic District Commission will begin work on the creation of a historic district ordinance. This ordinance will delineate the boundaries of each of the proposed districts and establish the criteria and regulations to which they shall be subject.

The use of the historic district has two major advantages. First, there is the obvious use as a tool to preserve significant historical features. Secondly, the historic district can and should be a means of preserving decent housing and maintaining the integrity of existing neighborhoods.

Summary

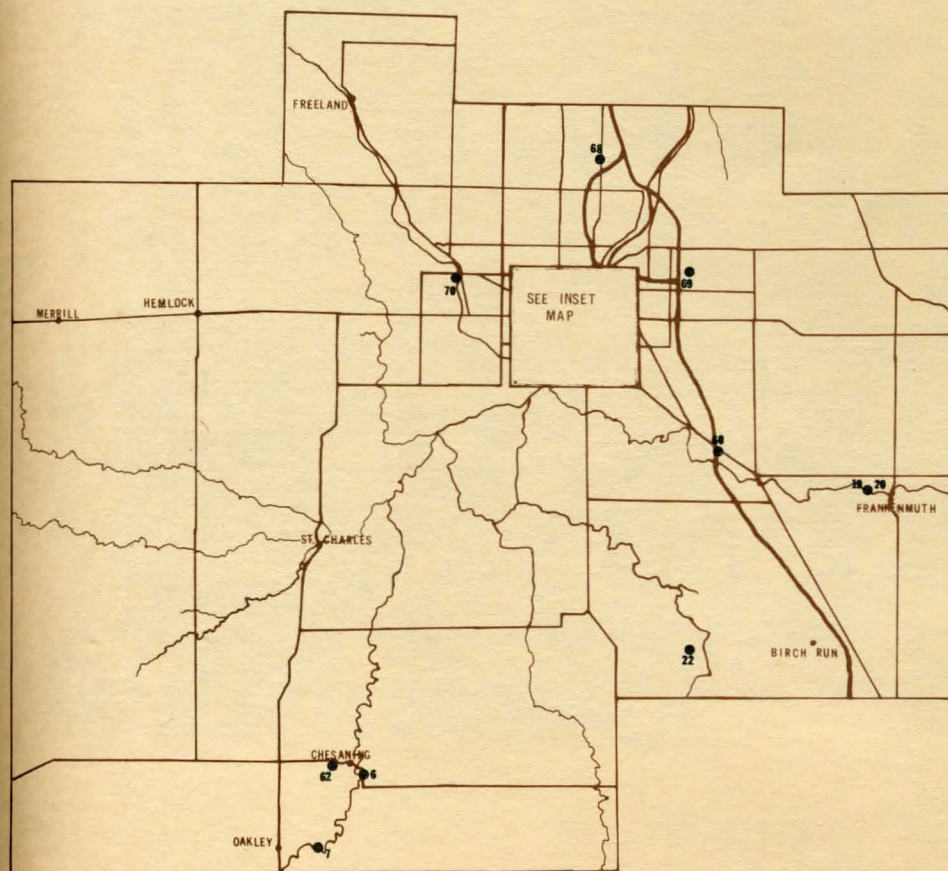
Saginaw County's historic preservation activities could be increased greatly if the above efforts are realized to their full potential. This increase is especially likely in light of the creation of the Historic District Commission. The commission will act as a coordinating body for all preservation activities throughout the county. By virtue of its diverse membership (Appendix B), it is anticipated that coordination and cooperation will continue and grow.



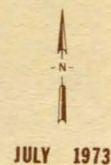
Site Inventory

Historic Features Inventory

1. West Side Business District, Bounded by Michigan, Court, Adams, and the Saginaw River
2. The "Grove", Bounded by Ezra Rust, E. Holland, Washington, and Lake Linton
3. Commemorative, 29th Regiment, Bliss Park
4. Stark Home, 704 S. Michigan
5. Commemorative, Father Henri Nouvel, Ojibway Island
6. Big Rock, Chesaning Township
7. Parshallsburg Mill, Chesaning Township
8. East Side Post Office, Federal St.
9. Hoyt Library, 505 Janes
10. Hill Castle, 523 S. Jefferson
11. Brady Hill Cemetery, Holland Ave.
12. St. Mary's Church, Hoyt at Owen
13. Cass Treaty Site, Hamilton at Throop
14. Commemorative, Jerome Home, Michigan at Van Buren
15. Narcarto Home, 1404 S. Fayette
16. Residence, 632 Thompson
17. Saginaw Club, 219 N. Washington
18. Commemorative, Site of Salina, Wickes Park
19. Replica, St. Lorenz Church, Frankenmuth
20. St. Lorenz Church, Frankenmuth
21. Kempton Home, 415 Hayden
22. Pewonogowink Church and Cemetery, Taymouth Township
23. Hannon Home, 727 N. Michigan
24. Green Point, Confluence of Tittabawassee and Shiawassee Rivers
25. First Congregational Church, Jefferson at Hayden
26. Bancroft Hotel, Washington at Genesee
27. Fordney Hotel, Court at Hamilton
28. Passolt Home, 1105 S. Jefferson
29. Bullock Home, 213 S. Granger
30. Brockway Home, 1631 Brockway
31. Hemmeter Home, 4490 Brockway
32. Wright Home, 207 Garden Lane
33. Kelley Home, 937 Genesee
34. Hanchett Home, 1006 N. Michigan
35. Linton Home, 424 Webber
36. Knowlton Home, 1019 N. Michigan
37. St. John's Episcopal Rectory and Church, 119 N. Michigan
38. First Presbyterian Church, Court at Harrison
39. Walz Home, 616 S. Warren
40. Bliss Home, 1839 N. Michigan
41. Turner Home, 1702 Court
42. Stark Home, 1027 N. Michigan
43. Peters Home, 130 N. 6th
44. Bauer Home, 303 S. Granger
45. Leitch Home, 1100 Hoyt
46. Penoyer Home, 1121 N. Michigan
47. Howland Home, 625 N. Michigan
48. Fitzhugh Home, 2134 Brockway
49. Wieneke Home, 1660 Brockway
50. Slade Home, 1023 S. Jefferson
51. Moore Home, 803 N. Michigan
52. Corning Home, 1446 S. Washington
53. Royce Home, 614 E. Holland
54. Smart Home, 909 E. Holland
55. Davis Home, 519 N. Fayette
56. McClure Home, 1257 S. Jefferson
57. Glynn Home, 1331 S. Jefferson
58. Morse Home, Holland at Owen
59. Ring Home, 1126 N. Michigan
60. Bow Home, 6617 Dixie Highway
61. Church Home, 1008 Hancock
62. Nason Home, 605 Broad St., Chesaning
63. Symons Home, 732 Warren
64. Herrig Home, 1441 Court
65. Brand Home, 129 S. Granger
66. Crane Home, 503 N. Fayette
67. Gale Home, 1415 Brown
68. Davis Home, 6070 N. Michigan
69. Buena Vista Town Hall, Townline Rd.
70. The White House, State at M-47



LOCATION MAP of HISTORIC SITES



THE PREPARATION OF THIS MAP WAS FINANCIALLY
AIDED THROUGH A FEDERAL GRANT FROM THE DEPART-
MENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, UNDER
THE URBAN PLANNING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.
AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 701 OF THE HOUSING ACT OF
1964, AS AMENDED

1. West Side District, Area bordered by Michigan, Court, Adams, and the River.

Fort Saginaw was constructed on this site in 1822. The fort represented the first white settlement in the Saginaw Valley. The fort and its immediate surroundings comprised the core of the "Town of Saginaw" which later became Saginaw City. Currently the Fordney Hotel, which was constructed in 1864, occupies the site of Fort Saginaw. The commercial buildings which lie within the boundaries of this district were constructed in the middle 1800's and are significant both architecturally and historically.



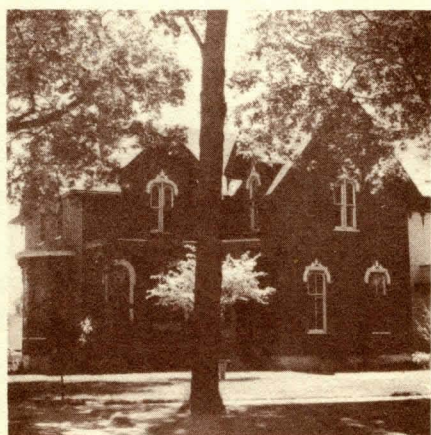
2. The "Grove", Bounded by Ezra Rust Drive, E. Holland Ave., Washington Street, and Lake Linton

Once the site of an Indian Village, the "Grove", with its fine homes and picturesque setting, now stands as a reminder of Saginaw's prosperous lumber era.



3. Commemorative, 29th Regiment, Bliss Park

On July 24, 1864, John F. Driggs organized the 29th Michigan Infantry. The unit which began service on October 3rd was made up of eight hundred fifty-six officers and men. The regiment camped on the site of Bliss Park until they left Saginaw on October 6, 1864 to fight in the Civil War under the command of Colonel Thomas Saylor. The plaque at Bliss Park which commemorates the 29th regiment was erected by the survivors from the regiment in 1914, fifty years after the 29th was organized.

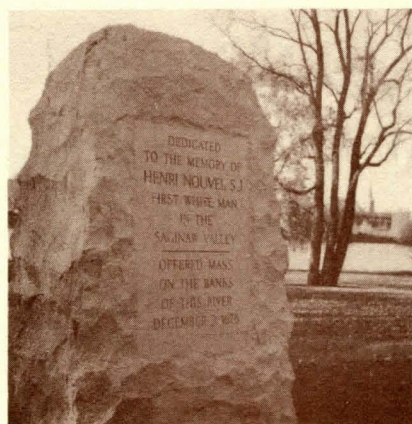


4. Stark Home, 704 S. Michigan

This magnificent home was built in 1874 by G.R. Stark, another of Saginaw's lumber barons who was also the father of Gilbert M. Stark, the last mayor of old Saginaw City.

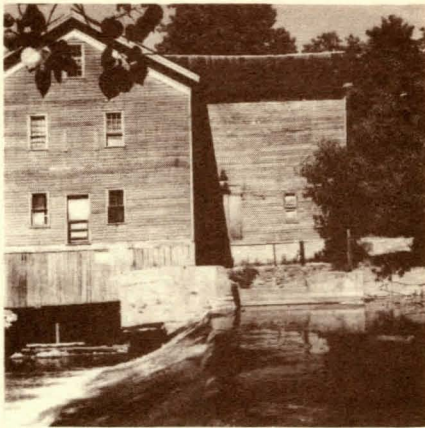
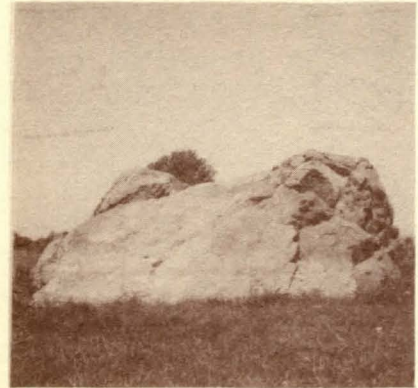
5. Commemorative, Fr. Henri Nouvel, Ojibway Island

Father Nouvel entered the Saginaw River on December 1, 1675. He came to Saginaw after being invited by the Chippewa Indians.



6. Big Rock, Chesaning Township

The name "Chesaning" comes from the Indian word for "lone rock" or "big stone". The big rock was at one time about 20 feet high, however, due to erosion, the rock is wearing away and is only 5 or 6 feet high now. In the "Cass Treaty", mention is made of the big rock. The Chippewas retained "one Tract, on ten thousand acres, on the Shiawassee River, at a place called the Big Rock."



7. Parshallsburg Mill, Chesaning Township

Constructed in 1842 by John Watkins, the Parshallsburg Mill is believed to be the oldest existing mill in Michigan. The mill was originally constructed as a saw mill and four years later, it was converted to a grist mill. Currently, the structure represents the only remaining grist mill in Saginaw County.

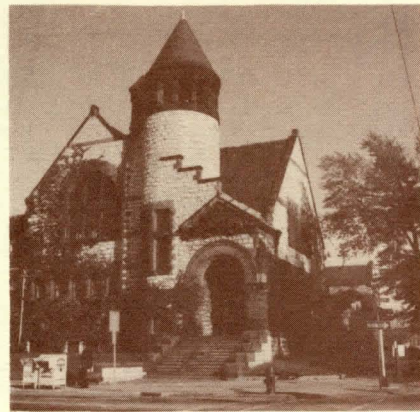
East Side Post Office, Federal St.

The east side post office was constructed in the 1890's and is a replica of the Chateau of Alexis DeTocqueville, a noted French author and adventurer. Not only is the building noted for its connection with a significant historical figure, but it is also of a unique architectural design. The post office is listed on the National Register.



9. Hoyt Library, 505 Janes

The property and money for the construction and maintenance of a new library were donated by Jesse Hoyt, who was the most prominent figure in the history of East Saginaw. He gave \$100,000 for the library. The building was designed by Van Brunt and Howe of Boston and was opened on November 1, 1890. The outer walls of the building were of stone from the Bay Port quarries and trimmed with red sandstone from Lake Superior.



10. Hill Castle, 523 S. Jefferson

Clarence M. Hill, one of Saginaw's prominent lumber barons and entrepreneurs, built this home in 1886. It was designed by Hollister with the idea in mind that a man's home "is his castle". The home portrays this concept well with its peaked roofs, spiral tower, and stained glass windows. This home is typical of those built by the lumber barons of Saginaw.

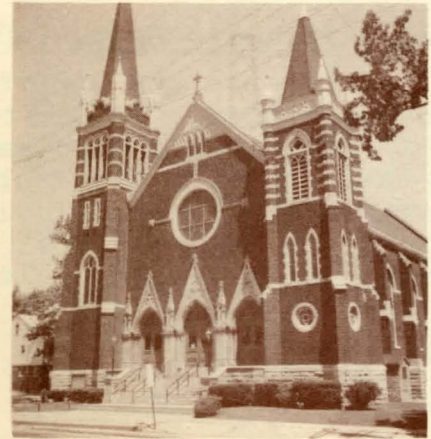
11. Brady Hill Cemetery, Holland Avenue

Brady Hill Cemetery was established in 1855 by Buena Vista Township while the area was a part of that township. In 1882, the cemetery was conveyed to the City of Saginaw via quit claim.



12. St. Mary's Church, Hoyt at Owen Streets

St. Mary's Church was the center of Catholicism on Saginaw's east side around the turn of the century. It was at this time that the magnificent church, which still stands at Hoyt and Owen, was built. Father Michael Dalton was pastor at St. Mary's when the Catholic structure was constructed.



13. Cass Treaty Site, Hamilton at Throop

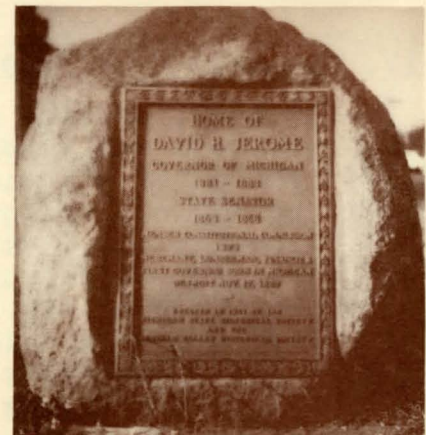
in 1916, the Daughters of the American Revolution erected a marker at the site where the Cass Treaty or Treaty of 1819 was signed. It was this spot that the Chippewa Indians ceded six million acres of land to the United States Government. The transaction took place in 1819 with Lewis Cass, the governor of the territory of Michigan at the time, representing the United States Government.

Although the cession of land to the U.S. was considerable, the Indians retained 100,000 acres of land for their own use.



14. Commemorative, Jerome Home, Michigan at Van Buren

This tablet marks the site of the David Jerome House. Jerome was a State Senator from 1863-1868 and Governor of Michigan from 1881-1883.



15. Narcarto Home, 1404 S. Fayette

This is the oldest residence in Saginaw. It was built by Benjamin Cushway, a blacksmith and one of Saginaw's earliest settlers in 1832. The house originally stood within the walls of Fort Saginaw and was later moved to its present location.



16. Residence, 632 Thompson

Hamilton Watson built the home in 1899. He was owner of a fine glassware and china shop on Genesee St. The home is of Georgian colonial architecture and features four large white pillars which support the porch and balcony.

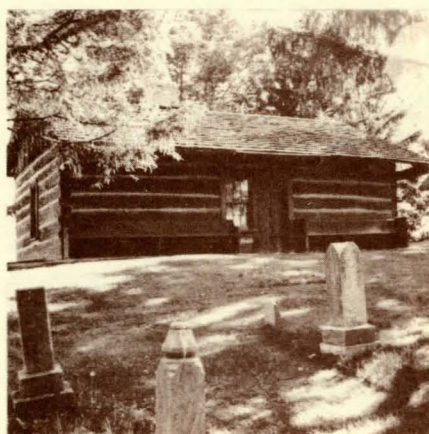
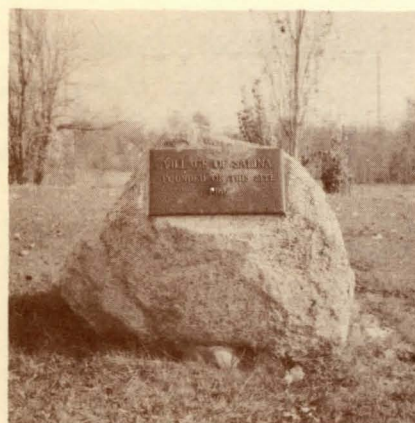
17. Saginaw Club, 219 N. Washington

In 1889, several prominent Saginaw citizens met to discuss the organization of a social club. After organizing, the group purchased property and constructed the club house at a cost of twenty-five thousand dollars. Today it still stands on its original site. The interior of the club includes many fine appointments - paintings, furniture, etc.



18. Commemorative, Site of Salina,
Wickes Park

Salina, now a part of the City of Saginaw, was established in the mid 1800's by William Gallagher. After the discovery of salt in the area, Gallagher decided to lay out a town on the site of his farm. Shortly after, Salina became a prosperous village with business and commercial enterprises abounding. In 1866, Salina was incorporated as the village of South Saginaw and in 1873, it became part of the City of East Saginaw.



19. Replica, St. Lorenz Church,
Frankenmuth

This is a replica of the first church in Frankenmuth. The original was constructed by the first German settlers for their pastor, Reverend August Craemer. It contained three rooms which were used for a church, the pastor's study, and a combination living room - kitchen. The residence celebrated their first Christmas in the facility.

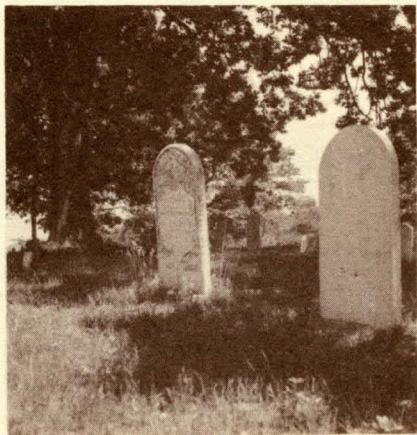
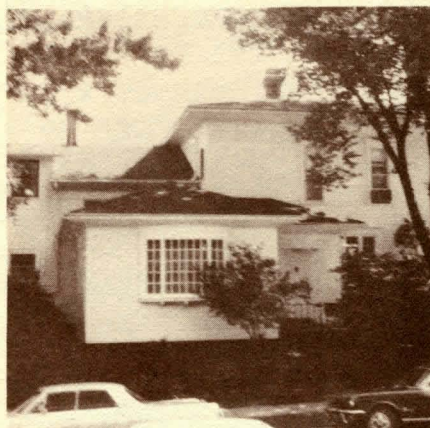
20. St. Lorenz Church, Frankenmuth

The church was built in 1880, while Reverend Ottomar Fuerbringer was pastor. This building was considered one of the largest country churches in the state. The interior is decorated with many beautiful decorations which had been brought from Germany.



21. Kempton Home, 415 Hayden

In 1869, W.H. Downs, a Saginaw shoe merchant, built this home. It typifies the Victorian style of architecture.



22. Pewonogowink Church and Cemetery, Taymouth Township

Reverend Daniel Wheaton, a full blooded Indian, established this Methodist Indian Mission Church and cemetery. Although the present church is not the original, it was erected about 1882. The cemetery is still very well kept.

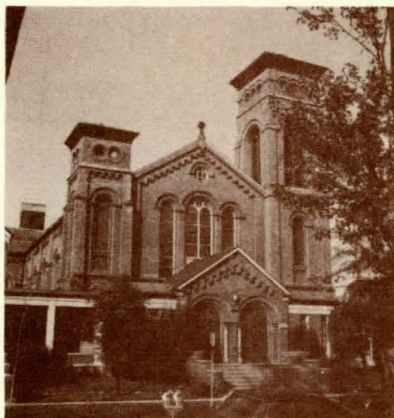
23. Hannon Home, 727 N. Michigan

The original site of the home was the northwest corner of Michigan and Hancock. Later the house was moved to the 500 block on S. Michigan where the Arthur Hill Trade School now stands. When the school was constructed, the house was moved to its present location.



24. Green Point, Confluence of Tittabawassee and Shiawassee Rivers

This area is considered to have been a favorite camp ground of the Indians. Many important councils were held at this site. From an archeological perspective, Green Point still contains remnants of the past, including arrowheads, crude implements, burial grounds, and other traces of Indian activity.



25. First Congregational Church, Jefferson at Hayden

In 1868, this church was constructed as the result of a need for larger facilities to accommodate a growing congregation.

26. Bancroft Hotel, Washington at Genesee

Built in 1915 to replace the Bancroft House, the Hotel Bancroft was truly an elegant structure. The Ionic style architecture building was decorated in the latest styles of the day. It was owned by the Bancroft Realty Co. and, like its predecessor, the Bancroft House, was named for George Bancroft, a noted scholar and historian.



27. Fordney Hotel, Court and Hamilton

Formerly the site of Fort Saginaw, Court and Hamilton Streets is now the location of the Hotel Fordney which was erected in 1866 by William Taylor of Saginaw. The hotel closed several times but always reopened. In 1912, the hotel was remodeled and refurnished to provide a first-class hotel on the west side of the city.



*28. Passolt Home, 1105 S. Jefferson

Henry W. Passolt, successful soap manufacturer, built this home in 1877. The home was constructed to be fireproof and as a result withstood the great fire of 1893. The Passolt home is listed on the National Register.

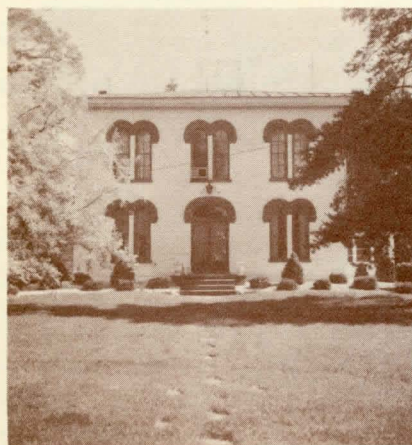
29. Bullock Home, 213 S. Granger

George Bullock, the second mayor of Saginaw, was believed to have built this home around 1857.



30. Hemmeter Home, 4490 Brockway Street

In 1868, this home was built by John Hemmeter. Hemmeter was a German immigrant who settled here in 1847 and began working as a mason. Hemmeter owned a great deal of land in Saginaw including what is now Lathrop Park.



31. Wright Home, 207 Garden Lane

Although this home has unique architectural significance, it is even more important with regard to its builder and first occupant. The man was Ammi Wright, whose many enterprises and associations earned him fame and prestige in the community as well as wealth. Among his most impressive ventures were, the founding of the Tittabawassee Boom Co. and two railroads.

32. Kelley Home, 937 Genesee

This home was the residence of John Kelley, who captained an entire Great Lakes Fleet in the 1890's.



33. Brockway Home, 1631 Brockway

This southern colonial style home was built by Able Brockway in 1864, although Brockway did not build the entire structure. In 1910, an architect, Harker W. Jackson, bought the home and made several additions to it, including the four impressive pillars which stand in front. These pillars, believed to have come from the Saginaw Court House, actually were from the Florentine Hospital at 507 South Washington.



34. Hanchett Home, 1006 N. Michigan

A former mayor of Saginaw, Benton Hanchett, built this home in 1882. Mr. Hanchett was a lawyer and partner in several Saginaw law firms, prosecuting attorney in Shiawassee County, and school board member of the Union School District of Saginaw.

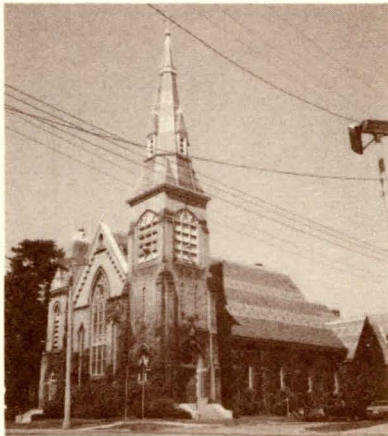
35. Linton Home, 424 Webber

Aaron Linton, one of Saginaw's outstanding citizens built this home in 1869. It was one of the first homes built on Saginaw's south side. Mr. Linton was instrumental in promoting Saginaw's park program and developing several recreational areas through the city.



36. Knowlton Home, 1019 N. Michigan

This home was built in the 1818's by Willis Knowlton, a bookkeeper, who became associated with one of Saginaw's most influential and prosperous individuals, Ammi Wright. Knowlton eventually became Wright's business partner and executor and trustee of his will.

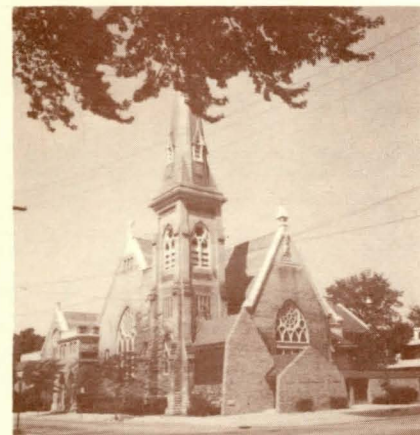


37. St. John's Episcopal Rectory and Church, 119 N. Michigan

This complex of buildings dates back as far as 1853, when the church was built. The rectory and parish house, both built in the late 1880's, are of the same Gothic architecture as the church. This continuity of design enhances the overall appearance of the religious complex.

38. First Presbyterian Church, Court at Harrison

This was the first church established in the Saginaw Valley. It was established in 1838 in a carpenter shop.



39. Walz Home, 616 S. Warren Street

George Walz, German immigrant and owner of Seyffardt & Walz Hardware built this home in 1884. Walz was one of the first distributors of the now famous, McCormick reaper.



40. Bliss Home, 1839 N. Michigan

One of the significant features of this home is its stately appearance. It was built in 1890 by Fred H. Bliss, who came to Saginaw to start a business college.

41. Turner Home, 1702 Court

Built in 1864, this residence was the home of Charles Turner, a Saginaw lumberman. The home was surrounded by flower beds and gardens which are evidence of Turner's love of beauty.



42. Stark Home, 1027 N. Michigan

The victorian architecture of this home makes it one of the most unique and prominent in the city. It's builder was Gilbert M. Stark, an attorney and the last mayor of old Saginaw City. The home, inside and out, depicts the fine workmanship practiced in that period.



43. Peters Home, 130 N. 6th

The architect of this home, Franklin Boergoert, was a student of the noted Saginaw architect, Ludwig Bude. Bude was responsible for laying out many of the street patterns in Saginaw. The home was built in 1870 by Charles H. Peters, a printer. Peter's printing shop later evolved into the Saginaw News.

44. Bauer Home, 303 S. Granger

Built in 1866 by a Saginaw mason contractor, Jacob Bauer, this home is still in fine condition.



45. Leitch Home, 110 Hoyt

The home was built in 1864 by Doctor Arthur E. Leitch.



46. Penoyer Home, 1121 N. Michigan

This stately home was constructed in 1864 by Lewis Penoyer, a prominent Saginaw Businessman. Among his many enterprises were lumbering and banking. His philanthropic deeds included a sizable legacy to Saginaw General Hospital.

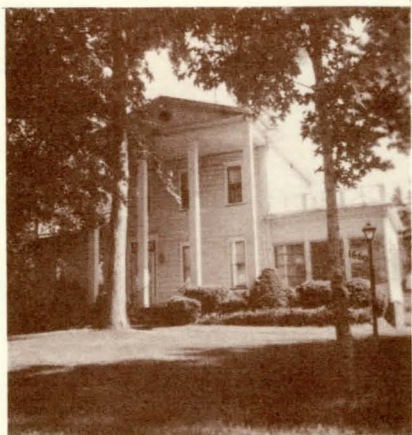
47. Howland Home, 625 N. Michigan

This is one of the oldest homes in Saginaw believed to have been built around 1864. Its architecture is Greek revival. One of the most interesting aspects of the home's construction is that the insulation is sawdust - a testimony to the era in which it was built.



48. Fitzhugh Home, 2134 Brockway

When built in 1884, this home stood in open fields. Horses grazed on the site of Arthur Hill High School and a slaughter house stood nearby.

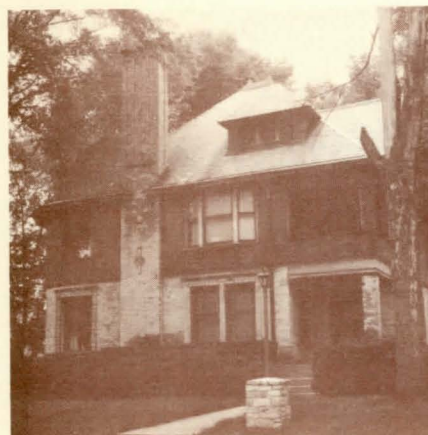


49. Wieneke Home, 1660 Brockway

Built in 1874, this was the home of one of Saginaw's most prominent citizens - Eric F. Wieneke. Although Wieneke did not build this home, he purchased it in 1922 upon moving to Saginaw from Detroit. Among his credentials, Wieneke was a city councilman, mayor and civic leader. One of his greatest achievements was his leadership in securing pure water for Saginaw through the Saginaw-Midland water supply from Lake Huron.

50. Slade Home, 1023 S. Jefferson

This home was built in about 1885 by Lewis Cass Slade. Slade was one of Saginaw's wealthy lumber barons as well as being a prominent civic leader.



51. Moore Home, 803 N. Michigan

This attractive home was built in 1868 by Judge John Moore, another of Saginaw's early civic leaders. The London born Moore served for a time as Saginaw County Prosecuting Attorney and then as Mayor of the City of Saginaw.



52. Corning Home, 1446 S. Washington

This home is actually a combination of two homes, the main one being built by T.B. Corning in 1872. Corning was one of the founders of First National Bank of Saginaw.

53. Royce Home, 614 E. Holland

Once the home of Bishop William F. Murphy, first Bishop of the Saginaw Diocese, this home was built in 1865 by Rufus Royce. Previous to its occupancy by Bishop Murphy, the home was owned by Charles F. Sommers, who is credited with inventing a match which eliminated the need for the old kitchen matches.



54. Smart Home, 909 E. Holland

J.S. Smart Jr., a wholesale grocer in Saginaw, built this home in 1884.



55. Davis Home, 519 N. Fayette

Although this attractive home was part of the estate of Charles H. Davis, Saginaw lumber baron, it was only the Davis carriage house. The original home was razed to make way for Saginaw Osteopathic Hospital. Davis worked his way up through the Saginaw lumber industry and eventually went into partnership with his former employer, Ammi W. Wright. Their business interests extended from Michigan to Minnesota.

56. McClure Home, 1257 S. Jefferson

Mrs. Grace Sample McClure designed and built this home in 1907. Mrs. McClure, a graduate of Vassar College, was involved to a great extent with the Saginaw education system. She was a main force behind the consolidation of the East and West Side Saginaw school systems. And she was one of the organizers of the Saginaw Board of Education as we know it today.



57. Glynn Home, 1331 S. Jefferson

This home was built in 1889 by Edward Glynn, bank cashier at Second National Bank.



58. Morse Home, Holland at Owen

Several prominent figures in Saginaw's history have lived here at one time or another. The home itself was built in 1874 by Oliver Morse. Soon after the home was built, it was occupied by one of Saginaw's early mayors, William Glasby. Following the Glasby occupancy, the home was owned by Henry C. Potter, one of the founders of the Flint & Pere Marquette Railroad.



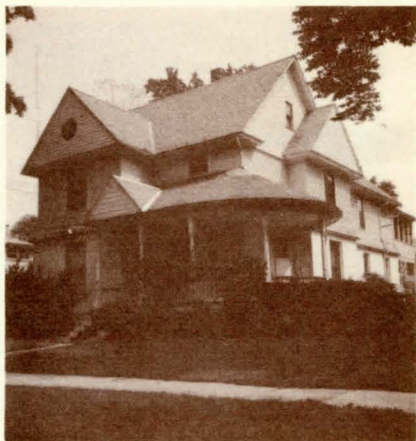
59. Ring Home, 1126 N. Michigan

Clark L. Ring built this home in 1904. The home, as well as the beautiful gardens behind it, were designed by the architect, Charles A. Platt. Among Ring's many accomplishments were his role in facilitating the merger of Saginaw and East Saginaw, organizing the Saginaw Country Club and serving as director of the Bank of Saginaw.



60. Bow Home, 6617 Dixie Highway

Dennis Bow built this home in 1872 in Bridgeport Township. Bow was one of the first settlers in Bridgeport and was township supervisor for a period of time.



61. Church Home, 1008 Hancock

In 1895, Edgar D. Church built this home. Church was a partner in the firm of Jackson, Church, and Wilcox Co. which was the predecessor of the General Motors Steering Gear operation in Saginaw.

62. Nason Home, 605 Broad St., Chesaning

An early member of the Saginaw Valley Trust Co. Board of Directors, George Nason built this home in 1907.



63. Symons Home, 732 S. Warren

Built in 1908, the house is reported to have been vacant for approximately 10 years until John W. Symons purchased and lived in it. Symons was founder of Symons Brothers & Co., a wholesale grocery firm in Saginaw.

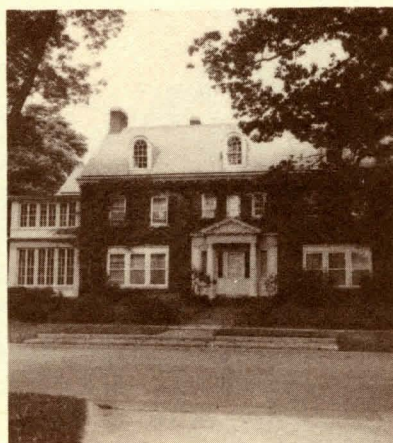


64. Herrig Home, 1411 Court

This home was built when Saginaw, on the east side of the river, was just beginning to develop, in 1864. Bernhard Herrig started a grocery store and five years later built this home.

65. Brand Home, 129 S. Granger

Clarence H. Brand, secretary-treasurer of the Bliss Coal Co. and partner in the Brand & Hardin Milling Co., built this huge home in 1916. The ballroom located on the third floor of the structure was used by Mrs. Brand to produce plays. She was president of the Saginaw Chapter, American Association of University Women.



66. Crane Home, 503 N. Fayette

Daniel Crane built this Victorian home in the late 1800's. Crane was a veteran of the Civil War. After the War, he came to Saginaw from New York and built a barrel factory here. From that time on, he was associated with several enterprises and was responsible for constructing saw mills in several states across the country.



67. Gale Home, 1415 Brown

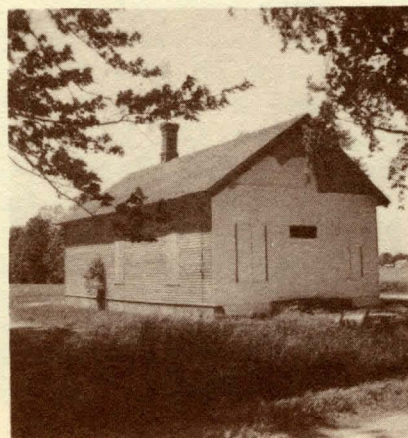
The home of Martin P. Gale was built in 1912. Gale was another of Saginaw's prominent lumber barons. Perhaps, even more important than the home's owner is its designer, Frederick Beckbissinger, the most prominent of the Saginaw architects of that time. He was noted for his use of wide overhangs and Oriental characteristics as evidenced in the Gale Home.

68. Davis Home, 6070 N. Michigan

Using the lumber from his own trees, Fred Davis built this home in 1901. The total cost of the home was \$300.



69. Buena Vista Town Hall, Townline Rd.



70. The White House, State at M-47

* Listed on the National Register of
Historic Places



Appendix

Appendix A

SAGINAW COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 102

AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

WHEREFORE, Act 169, Michigan Public Acts of 1970, provides for the establishment of Historic Districts, the allowance of and acquisition of the land and structures for historic purposes, the preservation of historic sites and structures, the creation of a Historic District Commission and maintenance of publicly owned historic sites, and;

WHEREAS, historical preservation is declared to be a public purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, the County of Saginaw ordains:
An ordinance creating a Historic District Commission.

SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS

1.1 "Historic District" means an area or group of areas not necessarily having contiguous boundaries, created by a local unit for the purposes of this act,

1.2 "Historical Preservation" means the protection, rehabilitation, restoration or reconstruction of districts, archeological and other sites, buildings, structures and objects.

1.3 "Commission" means Saginaw County Historic District Commission.

SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF PURPOSE

2.1 The purpose of this ordinance is to safeguard the heritage of Saginaw County by preserving districts within Saginaw County, which reflect elements of its cultural, social, economic, political or architectural history; stabilize and improve property values in such districts; foster civic beauty; strengthen the local economy; promote the use of Historic Districts for the education, pleasure and welfare of the citizens of Saginaw County and the State of Michigan.

SECTION 3. HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION.

3.1 There is hereby created the Saginaw County Historic District Commission.

3.2 The Commission shall consist of seven members who are residents of the County of Saginaw and shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Saginaw County Board of Commissioners.

3.3 Four members of the commission shall be appointed to serve for two years and three members for three years, for the first Commission. Thereafter, each Commissioner shall serve a term of three years.

3.4 The terms of all Commissioners shall commence on the first day of the month following the effective date of this ordinance.

3.5 Members shall be eligible for reappointment. In the event of a vacancy on the Commission, interim appointments may be made by the Chairman of the Saginaw County Board of Commissioners to complete the unexpired term of such position.

3.6 The Chairmen of the Saginaw County Board of Commissioners shall appoint at least two (2) members of the Commission from a list of citizens submitted by a duly organized and existing preservation society or societies, and one architect, duly registered in this state, if the person resides in the County of Saginaw and is available for appointment.

SECTION 4. PERMIT

4.1 Application. Before construction, alteration, repair, moving or demolition affecting the exterior appearance of a historical structure is made within an established Historic District, the person, individual, firm or corporation proposing they make such construction or changes shall file an application for permission. The application shall be referred, together with plans pertaining thereto, to the Commission and the Commission shall review such plans and applications, and no permit shall be granted until the Commission has acted thereon as hereinafter provided. Application for permit shall be made and filed with the Director of the Saginaw County Planning Commission, who shall refer the applications to the Historical District Commission for review.

4.2 Review of Plans. In reviewing plans, the Commission shall give consideration to:

- (a) The historic or architectural value and significance of the structure and its relationship to the historical value of the surrounding area;
- (b) The relationship of the exterior architectural features of such structure to the rest of the structures and to surrounding areas;
- (c) The general compatibility of exterior design, arrangements, texture, and materials proposed to be used;
- (d) Any other factor including aesthetic, which it deems to be pertinent.

4.3 Exterior features; limitation and consideration of interior arrangements; disapproval of application. The Commission shall pass only on exterior features of a structure and shall not consider interior arrangements. Nor shall it disapprove applications except in regard to the considerations as set forth in the previous paragraph, subsection 4.2.

4.4 Plan for Preservation of structures. In case of an application for repair or alteration affecting the exterior appearance of a structure or for the moving or demolition of a structure which the Commission deems so valuable to Saginaw County, the state or nation, that the loss thereof will adversely effect the public purpose of Saginaw County, the State of Michigan and the nation, the Commission shall endeavor to work out, with the owner, an economically feasible plan for the preservation of the structure.

4.5 Approval of application. An application for repair or alteration affecting the exterior appearance of a historic structure or for its moving or demolition shall be approved by the Commission if any of the following conditions prevail, and if the opinion of the Commission the proposed changes will improve or correct these conditions;

- (a) The structure constitutes a hazard to the safety of the public or the occupants;
- (b) The structure is a deterrent to a major improvement program which will be of substantial benefit to the community;
- (c) Retention of the structure would not be in the interest of the majority of the Community.

SECTION 5. MEETINGS; RECORDS

5.1 All meetings of the Commission shall be open to the public and any person or representative of his choice shall be entitled to appear and be heard on any matter before it reaches its decision. The Commission shall keep a record which shall be vested in Saginaw County and all monies deposited with the Saginaw County Treasurer.

SECTION 7. COUNTY JURISDICTION

7.1 The overall historical preservation plans of cities, villages, and townships shall be submitted to the Commission for review, and County plans submitted to cities, villages, and townships having Historic District Commissions. Day to day activities of local commissions concerning alteration and restoration decisions need not be submitted to the Commission but only those plans which have other than strictly local significance.

SECTION 8. CERTIFICATION OF APPROVAL OF REJECTION; EFFECT; FAILURE OR COMMISSION TO ACT

8.1 The Commission shall file with the Saginaw County Planning Commission its certificate of approval or rejection of plans submitted to it for review. No work shall begin until the certificate is filed, but in the case of rejection, no permit shall be issued in such case. The failure of the Commission to act within 60 days after date of filing, unless an extension of time is agreed upon mutually by the applicant and the Commission, shall be deemed to constitute approval.

SECTION 9. MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR; WORK UNDER PREVIOUSLY ISSUED PERMIT

9.1 Nothing in this ordinance shall be construed to prevent ordinary maintenance or repair of any structure within the Historic District; or to prevent construction, alteration, repair, moving or demolition of any structure under a permit issued by the Saginaw County Planning Commission prior to the passage of the Ordinance.

SECTION 10. APPEAL FROM DECISION OF COMMISSION

10.1 Any persons jointly or severely aggrieved by a decision of the Commission have the same rights of appeal concerning the decision as is granted to an applicant aggrieved by a decision of a zoning board of review.

SECTION 11. PREVIOUSLY ENACTED LEGISLATION; EXISTING COMMISSION

11.1 This ordinance does not affect any previously enacted ordinances pertaining to historical preservation, and does not affect commissions appointed by local governing bodies to foster historic preservation.

SECTION 12. SEVERABILITY

12.1 The legislative intent is that this Ordinance be liberally construed and should any provision or section of this Ordinance be held unconstitutional or invalid, such ruling shall not be construed, as affecting the validity of the remaining portions of the ordinance; it being the intent that this Ordinance shall stand notwithstanding the validity of any provision or section thereof.

SECTION 13. EFFECTIVE DATE

13.1 This ordinance, after being duly transmitted to the Governor for his approval and if approved by the governor or otherwise approved in accordance with the law, shall take effect sixty (60) days from date of adoption by the Saginaw County Board of Commissioners providing a copy thereof has been published in The Saginaw Press, Saginaw, Michigan.

Adopted this 6th day of February, 1973.

PAUL GUSTAFSON,

Chairman, Saginaw County Board of Commissioners

Attested and certified to be a true copy
GLADYS JUNE ORMSBY, County Clerk

March 16, 1973

Appendix B

SAGINAW COUNTY

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Perry D. Riddick	Chairman, Saginaw County Historical Society
Ralph Stroebe	Saginaw County Historian
Daniel Toshach	Architect, Vice-Chairman, Saginaw County Metropolitan Planning Commission
Patricia Appold	Secretary, Saginaw County Parks and Recreation Commission
Carl Hansen	Curator, Frankenmuth Historical Museum
Thomas Cawley	City of Saginaw Parks and Recreation Department
Shirley Iler	Citizen

Appendix C

Footnotes

1. Comprehensive Planning Assistance

Requirements and Guidelines for a Grant,
Handbook 1, March 1972, U.S. Department
of Housing and Urban Development

The following were used in researching
and preparing the inventory of historic
features:

History of Saginaw County, Michigan, Vol. I
& II, James Cooke Mills, Seeman & Peters
Publishers, 1918.

1819-1969 Saginaw Sesquicentennial, Saginaw
Treaty Sesquicentennial Inc., 1969

Saginaw's Heritage Homes, Vol. I & II,
Saginaw News, 1966.