

1974 ESCANABA

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Historical Society  
of Michigan  
100th  
Annual Meeting  
1974



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## Local Arrangements and Program Planning

Washtenaw Historical Society  
University of Michigan  
Extension Service

William G. Milliken  
Governor of the State of Michigan  
presents this  
**Executive Declaration**  
in Observance of

The 100th Annual Meeting  
of the  
Historical Society of Michigan

October 17 - 19, 1974  
Ann Arbor

Since its founding in 1828 by Lewis Cass and Henry Rowe Schoolcraft and its reorganization in 1874, the Historical Society of Michigan has played a vital role in preserving our state's precious heritage.

On the eve of the Bicentennial, the Society through its publications, conference and consulting programs continues to assist over 170 local historical societies in preserving their historical resources.

Therefore, I, William G. Milliken, Governor of the State of Michigan, urge all citizens to join in the observance of the 100th anniversary of the Historical Society of Michigan.

Given under my hand on this fourteenth day of June in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred seventy-four and of the Commonwealth one hundred thirty-eighth.



*William G. Milliken*

GOVERNOR

# Historical Society of Michigan

Elizabeth S. Adams

## The Pioneers Organize

Not many individuals or organizations have two birth dates—but our Society does. “The Historical Society of Michigan” first saw the light of day in 1828, suffered a hiatus, and was reborn in 1874. We now count one hundred consecutive annual meetings since that rebirth.

The original Historical Society of Michigan had an ambitious program. Governor Lewis Cass was its first president, and members of the legislative council of the Territory were all ex-officio members. Honorary members included such national and international figures as Daniel Webster, John C. Calhoun, Washington Irving, James Fenimore Cooper, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, and Harriet Martineau. The Society in 1834 published a collection of annual addresses entitled *Historical and Scientific Sketches of Michigan*, and collected artifacts, papers, and manuscripts before holding its last recorded meeting in 1861. Many of its papers and manuscripts were subsequently published in the series of *Michigan Pioneer and Historical Collections*. Its museum collection became scattered, as frequently happens with organizations which do not have a permanent headquarters.<sup>(1)</sup>

A rekindling of enthusiasm for historical societies occurred as the centennial of the United States approached. In Michigan, this enthusiasm was officially recognized in Act No. 156, Session Laws of 1873,

passed by the Legislature and given immediate effect April 25, 1873, entitled “An Act to Provide for the Incorporation of State, County, or Municipal, Historical, Biographical, and Geological Societies.” Provision was made whereby any five or more persons “that may hereafter associate together for the purpose of collecting and preserving historical, biographical, or other information in relation to the State of Michigan, or any portion thereof, may become a body corporate by complying with the requirements of this act.”<sup>(2)</sup>

According to the account given in Volume 1 of the *Michigan Pioneer Collections*, several county societies elected delegates, on the suggestion of a correspondent of the *Detroit Daily Post*, to a meeting to be held in Lansing on March 11, 1874, for the purpose of organizing a state



Judge Albert Miller of Bay City was elected the Society's first president. Courtesy: Bay County Historical Society.

society. At this meeting, held in the library room of the old State House, Judge Albert Miller of Bay City was elected chairman and John C. Holmes of Detroit served as Secretary. By resolution, any person present “having resided in the State twenty-five years, from any county not represented” was invited to represent that county. A committee of nine was appointed to draft articles of association. On Wednesday, April 22, 1874, at 7:00 P.M. at Representative Hall in the old State House in Lansing, representatives of Pioneer and Old Settlers' societies from throughout the state met to organize the Pioneer Society of the State of Michigan. Any person forty years of age and older who had resided in the state for 25 years was eligible for membership. A constitution and by-laws were adopted and permanent officers elected. Judge Miller became the first president of the Society. Mrs. Harriet A. Tenney, State Librarian, was chosen recording secretary, Ephriam Longyear corresponding secretary, and A. N. Hart treasurer. Twelve counties were represented and twelve vice presidents were chosen. The constitution provided for one vice president from each local or county society represented by delegates. Numerous vice presidents continued to be chosen over the years.

Mrs. Adams is a member of the Board of Trustees and Past-President of the Historical Society of Michigan.

At this meeting the president invited the Society to hold a social reunion at Bay City, and thus began a pleasant custom which continued for a few years of holding summer or semi-annual meetings in the home county of the president.<sup>(3)</sup> The meeting in Tecumseh in 1878 deserved special mention in the President's report for that year. It seems the "ladies who superintended the tables" set up places for three hundred, planning to serve the first three hundred and then reset the tables "until all were waited on. But when 3,000 or 4,000 hungry people saw a prospect of waiting for some hours for their dinner, they began to help themselves without ceremony, by passing things outside until all were fed in short meter."<sup>(4)</sup> Later the annual meeting time was changed to June and the summer social meetings were discontinued.

A significant milestone in the history of the Society was reached when the Legislature, in 1875, appropriated \$500.00 for 1875 and \$500.00 for 1876 for collecting and preserving any materials illustrative of the history of Michigan and for defraying expenses of the Society.<sup>(5)</sup>

### Preserving Our Past

At the annual meeting in 1876, a committee of five historians was selected to prepare and publish a volume of pioneer collections. Thus was initiated the publishing program of the Society. In all, forty volumes of collections were published. The earlier volumes were entitled *Michigan Pioneer Collections* or *Michigan Pioneer and Historical Collections*; the last two, published by the Michigan Historical Commission, were labeled *Michigan Histori-*

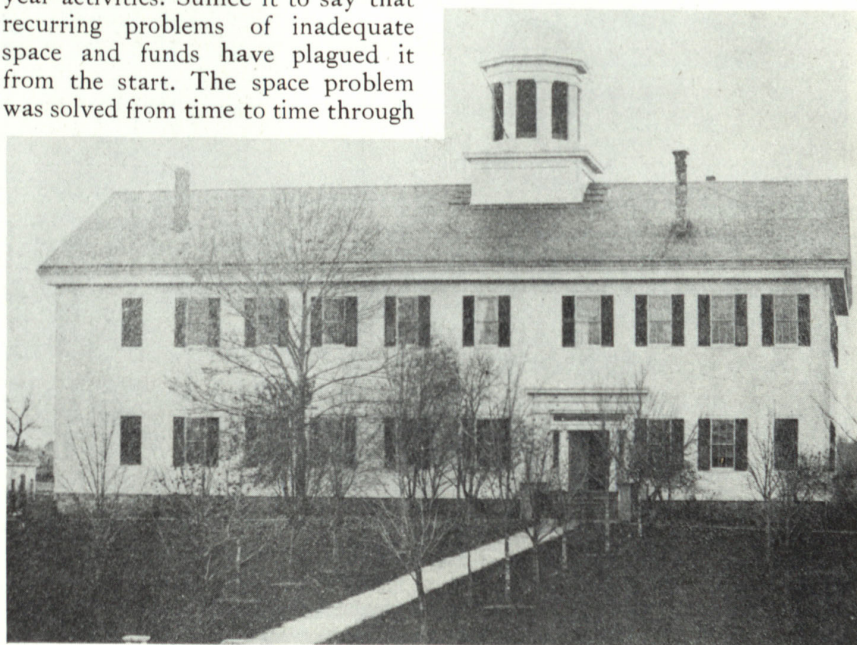
*cal Collections*. This series remains one of the most frequently-used sources on the early history of the state.

The *Collections* received wide distribution throughout the state. In 1896 it was voted to allow each school library with twenty-five or more books, exclusive of state and public reports, to be given a set for the cost of transportation. As the number of school libraries in the state increased, the number of volumes required was increased to fifty and finally to 500. By 1907 fourteen volumes were out of print. A new edition was ordered, and in 1909 fifteen hundred schools received the *Collections*.<sup>(6)</sup>

Space does not allow a detailed accounting of the Society's year-by-year activities. Suffice it to say that recurring problems of inadequate space and funds have plagued it from the start. The space problem was solved from time to time through

occupation of state facilities until fairly recent times. The first quarters consisted of two rooms in the new State Capitol—one an "audience room" where the pioneers might meet and the other a business office containing the library and museum. In furnishing the "audience room", the Society obtained the canopy, desk and chair from the old Capitol in Detroit which had been subsequently used in the Senate chamber in the first Lansing Capitol. They also took the old basswood eagle which had lost a wing but which, through the courtesy of the "designer of the furnishings" in the new capitol appeared now "full-winged, and in golden costume, and as good as new."<sup>(7)</sup>

The Society's museum collection



The first State Capitol building in Lansing was the scene of the organizational meeting of the Society on April 22, 1874. Courtesy: State Archives, Department of State.



Corner of the Society's museum room containing canopy, desk and chair from the old Capitol in Detroit. Courtesy: Bentley Historical Library.

grew and attracted a substantial number of visitors. In 1905 the secretary, Henry R. Pattengill, reported that from June 1904 to

May 1905 there were 4,300 registered visitors. That year the Society paid Mrs. Marie B. Ferrey \$1,000.00 for salary as clerk and \$689.49 for

expenses.<sup>(8)</sup> To Mrs. Ferrey is due much credit for the Society's collecting program. Widow of a Civil War veteran employed in the Auditor General's office, Mrs. Ferrey became an active member of the Society and toured the state in the interest of her two loves: school children and Michigan history. Through her efforts the museum outgrew its "attic" room on the fourth floor of the Capitol and overflowed into the corridors.<sup>(9)</sup> When the Michigan Historical Commission took over responsibility for the Society's collection, Mrs. Ferrey became Curator of the Museum.

In 1964 the Society moved out of state facilities to the Lansing Civic Center and began a search for more permanent headquarters. Ultimately, through the efforts of former President Roscoe O. Bonisteel, The University of Michigan granted space in the Tuomy House at 2117 Washtenaw, Ann Arbor, where the Society's offices are currently located.

#### State Assistance Uncertain

The Society early felt the need for financial support from the state, a need summarized in the 1884 annual address by President C. I. Walker. Praising the Society for its publication of the *Michigan Pioneer Collections*, and the Legislature for financial help in making publication possible, Walker pointed out that the Society in our sister state, Wisconsin, had over the years been supported with state funds. He continued: "For want of just such aid our State Historical Society (of 1828) has virtually ceased to exist, and its rare collections are packed away in inaccessible places, and thus are no longer of any practical value." After summarizing the origin and history of the Michigan Society,



he remarked that in 1861 the original society had petitioned the legislature for aid without success. The society, having failed in its appeal, became inactive. He then said: "This history furnishes us a suggestive lesson, namely, that without legislative aid this great work cannot be done. Pioneers, and those interested in historical research, from the very love of it, most cheerfully give their time and labor to the work of rescuing and reproducing the materials of our history. But to make such labor effective it is essential: First, that we have a place for holding our meetings and for receiving and keeping our contributions. Second, that our most valuable contributions shall be printed, and thus made accessible to the public. In this way, and in this way alone, can we successfully accomplish the work we have in hand."<sup>(10)</sup>

Thus he summarized a view held by the leaders of the Society until fairly recent times. When Governor Pingree vetoed its state appropriation in 1897, the Society was virtually bankrupt. From June 1, 1898, to June 1, 1899, its income was ten dollars in dues and six dollars for sales of volumes of the *Collections*.<sup>(11)</sup> Publication of the *Collections* had to be suspended temporarily. Although a modest appropriation again became available in 1899, Pingree's veto was a portent of what was to come. There were those both in and out of public office who, although most sympathetic with the aims of the Society, felt that essentially-private organizations should not receive state appropriations. One such person was Governor Chase S. Osborn. In 1911 he vetoed the appropriation to the Society and a financial crisis again arose. The veto

prompted the Society to adopt corrective measures. At its annual meeting on June 6, amendments to the Articles of Association were adopted providing that "all the property which it has or may acquire by gift, purchase or otherwise, shall be held by the Society in trust for the State of Michigan."<sup>(12)</sup> The organization of the Society was changed by creating a board of eleven trustees, one of whom was to be the Governor, ex officio. The minutes indicate that these changes were intended to make the Society virtually a state department and assure support and preservation of the organization.

#### State Commission Formed

At a midwinter meeting in Grand Rapids on January 31, 1913, the Trustees voted to submit to the Legislature two bills: one requiring the appointment of a Commission to care especially for public documents in state and local archives; the other to provide for a new building near the Capitol, or an addition to the present building, in which the Society might have appropriate quarters. The first suggestion received official support.

The annual meeting of June 4 and 5, 1913, held in the Senate chamber, was the first meeting held under the joint auspices of the Society and the newly-created Michigan Historical Commission. At this meeting the President of the Society and of the Commission, Clarence M. Burton, summarized the new relationship, recalling that the reason given by Governor Osborn for vetoing the 1911 appropriation was that the Society did not bear such a relation to state government as to warrant the state's giving money for its support. He then said:

"As soon as it became known how the Governor felt about it, we set about to organize a new state department, a department of History and Archives, which could receive from the State government the necessary help. The legislature accordingly passed an act establishing the Michigan Historical Commission, which takes over the collecting, publishing, and distributing activities of the Society. This act will give a much larger field than we ever expected as originally organized. Under the act the Commission has the authority to collect from the various State, county, town, city, and village archives all important public documents over thirty years old, and in so doing to require the cooperation of the public officials having them in charge. These are to be properly housed, arranged, and catalogued for the use of the public and of students . . . In the possibilities of this new department of the State government, the Society, which will receive the Commission's active cooperation, is placed on a surer foundation than ever before. The Society can do many things that the Commission cannot do effectively, like holding this meeting which you are all enjoying. The pioneers and historical workers, the great rank and file of those interested in the history of Michigan, need such an organization as this Society, through which to express themselves as a unit in relation to the historical interests of the State and of the local societies. We have now the ideal combination, a State-supported Commission with scholars from our University and men of business insight from the ranks of Michigan's business world to direct it, and on the other hand the Society composed of the people themselves . . ."<sup>(13)</sup>

Thus began a cooperative program between Society and Commission. It has lasted more or less harmoniously

over the years. Until 1963, the Commission's secretary served as secretary of the Society and the two organizations shared offices. The Society thereafter elected an independent secretary-treasurer, hired its own director, and rented offices outside state facilities. *Michigan History*, the quarterly published by the Commission, has been sent without charge to members of the Society since it first began publication in 1917. This arrangement continues under the Michigan History Division of the Department of State, of which the Commission is now the advisory board. Volume I, Number 1, of *Michigan History Magazine* listed the members of the Board of Trustees and Officers of the Society as well as the members of the Michigan Historical Commission and contained the following statement: "As the official organ of the Michigan Historical Commission and the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society, the Magazine will contain the important official acts of these bodies and the plans and progress of their work."<sup>(14)</sup>

Bulletin No. 1 of the Michigan Historical Commission included a section entitled: "Cooperative Activities," and in this section the Commission expressed its desire "to aid in every way possible the work of the Pioneer and Historical Society, and of the local societies of Michigan."

As a result, close ties developed between the Society and the Commission. In addition to sharing a secretary, the two groups for a number of years shared the same president, and several commissioners over the years served as president and/or trustee of the Society. Proceedings of the Society and lists of new members

were published in Commission publications. Prior to the 1930's the Commission supported the Society financially, and during the Depression the Society assisted the Commission when funds were scant.

The assumption by the Historical Commission of some of the functions of the Society, a let-down in enthusiasm and the dissolution of many local societies led to a period when the Society's membership decreased. In this period of apathy those most vitally involved in Michigan history held the Society together. As a result, the members of the Commission and its secretary influenced—sometimes dominated—the makeup of the Board of Trustees. Gradually, an increased interest in local history in Michigan colleges and universities, combined with a resurgence in local historical societies, created a need for expansion and change in the state society. In 1942, constitutional revisions were made at the annual meeting held in Bay City, to take effect in 1943.<sup>(15)</sup>

#### **New Era Begins**

Not long after the adoption of these revisions, George N. Fuller resigned as Secretary of the Commission and the Society and Lewis Beeson replaced him in both offices in 1946. At a testimonial dinner given Dr. Fuller by the Society, Vice President Willis F. Dunbar set the stage for the next phase of development. He said, in part:

"... I believe we all discern on the horizon a new and livelier concern for the advancement of historical work in our state. As Dr. Fuller takes a well-earned rest, he leaves behind him an enthusiastic group of people vitally interested in carrying on the work he has so well started. And so we look to

the future. There are three vital necessities. First, we must have more money from the state for the work of the commission and the general advancement of historical work in the state. Second, we must breathe new life into our historical society... Our historical society must not be the poor step-child of the commission. And that brings me to the third need as we look to the future, which is a spirit of full and hearty cooperation between the commission and the society. Only by teamwork between the two groups can our goals be achieved. And those goals must be three-fold: first, to render every encouragement to scholarly research in the field of Michigan history; second, to preserve vital historical records; and third, to popularize Michigan history in the best sense of the word..."<sup>(16)</sup>

By drawing on members for volunteer assistance in upgrading the quality of annual meetings and presenting as a part of those meetings the annual Burton Lecture, by providing assistance to teachers through the school activities committee, and by encouraging local historical organizations, new horizons for service opened up. People like Professor Dunbar, Professor Lewis G. Vander Velde, Professor Madison Kuhn, and Professor Rolland Maybee, who were teaching courses in Michigan history in their respective colleges and universities and who served at various times as Society Trustees, were in a strategic position to foster this renewed interest in Michigan's past.

The expansion of Society activities and the resultant increase in Society membership added to the heavy burdens of the limited Commission staff, and the Society paid for a part-time office secretary. The Board of Trustees became convinced that the

services of a full-time executive would be needed if the Society were to expand and become involved in a broader spectrum of historical activities. On September 21, 1963, at the annual business meeting in Grand Rapids, the Society amended the constitution to provide for the new office of Director. The Director was to be ex-officio a member of the Board of Trustees.

The position of Director was filled by William K. Alderfer, who served in that capacity until 1967. He was succeeded in 1968 by David R. Crippen. In 1969, Herbert J. Brinks took a leave of absence from his teaching position to serve as Director until 1971, when Frank C. Wilhelm joined the Society as Director.

#### Society Expands Program

The 1963 reorganization of the Society led to expansion of the Society's independent program. Publication of the *Chronicle* began in December. Volume I, No. 1, successor to an intermittently-issued newsletter begun in 1948,<sup>(17)</sup> was temporarily entitled *HSM Bulletin*. The editor requested suggestions for a name, and *Chronicle* was selected.

In 1958 the Society had begun inviting outstanding scholars and writers to deliver the Burton Lecture at the annual meeting. These lectures resulted from a grant made in 1957 by the Clarence M. Burton Memorial Foundation in memory of the Detroit historian who served as a president of the Society, member of the Michigan Historical Commission, and founder of the Burton Historical Collection of the Detroit Public Library.<sup>(18)</sup> Published under the auspices of the Society, the lectures served not only as interesting annual meeting pro-



Members of the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society gather on the Capitol steps during the thirtieth annual meeting, June, 1904. Courtesy: State Archives, Department of State.

grams, but in their published form, continue as a source of enlightenment for those interested in such subjects as "Reuben Gold Thwaites and the Progressive Historical Society" (Clifford Lord); "Fact and Fiction: Problems of the Historical Novelist" (John Tebbel); and "Some Musings on the Nature of History" (Harriet Simpson Arnow).

To make possible the funding of its additional activities, the Society obtained other private contributions. Beginning in 1963, five annual grants of \$7,500 each were received from the Louise Tuller Miller Estate. On June 15, 1964, the Trustees accepted a McGregor Foundation grant of \$1,000 as an award to foster research and

writing in Michigan history. Subsequent substantial grants for additional programs have been received from the McGregor Foundation.

On September 22, 1966, the Trustees approved a program for awarding from the McGregor funds annual Henry Rowe Schoolcraft Research Grants of \$300 to \$500, to encourage original contributions to our knowledge of Michigan's past. The first awards were made in 1967.

Encouragement of research, promotion of local societies and museums, and expansion of membership have resulted in other significant activities. At the annual meetings, members assemble at locations throughout the state to exchange ideas, to hear signif-

icant papers (and some not so significant—just fun), and to conduct the Society's business. Awards of merit are presented annually to individuals, businesses and organizations which have made a unique contribution to the promotion of historical interest in Michigan.

The nature of the proceedings has changed somewhat from the old days. In the Society's youth, when many members had been born outside of Michigan and immigrated to the state, reminiscences of pioneer experiences made up the programs. Little-by-little, as the collection of source material expanded and time removed from the membership the actual "pioneers," research replaced memories. Today, research plays the major role.

One of the Society's most enjoyable activities is the annual Upper Peninsula Conference. In the first issue of *Michigan History Magazine*, Alvah L. Sawyer, a Vice President of the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society, reported on his work as "organizing representative for the Upper Peninsula." He wrote:

"Delta County has within the last year organized and developed a strong local Society. To its promoters and workers is due, in very large measure, the securing of the first Upper Peninsula meeting of the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society, which was held at Escanaba in co-operation with the local society there in October, 1916. This meeting was attended by citizens from nearly every part of the Peninsula, and by the President, Secretary and other members of the State Society and Commission, including Governor Ferris, who held a prominent place upon the program. The very large attendance and the fine interest exhibited in the work

gave pleasing testimony to the good judgment of the State Society in inaugurating a system of autumnal or summer meetings, which it is expected will be continued, annually, in the Upper Peninsula."<sup>(19)</sup>

This series of meetings continued until 1925. In 1950 a second series began with a meeting at Marquette on May 27. Since that date local societies in the Upper Peninsula have hosted meetings during the summer at Escanaba, Fayette, Houghton, Copper Harbor, Mackinac Island, Ironwood, Sault Sainte Marie, Crystal Falls, St. Ignace, Iron Mountain, Manistique, Ontonagon, Munising and Iron River. These meetings proved so successful in the Upper Peninsula that the idea of regional meetings has now spread and a number of areas in the Lower Peninsula have been established where annual conferences are held.

Throughout its history the Society has had several different names. The original group was known as "The Historical Society of Michigan." The Pioneer Society of the State of Michigan was formed in 1874. In 1886, it was suggested that the name be altered to "Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society," and this was done officially at the annual meeting in 1887.<sup>(20)</sup> In 1929 the name was changed to "Michigan State Historical Society" then the word order reversed in 1943 to "State Historical Society of Michigan," simplified in 1947 to "Historical Society of Michigan."<sup>(21)</sup>

Membership in the Society has had its ups and downs. In 1874, 132 people paid \$1.00 each for annual dues. At the turn of the century 519 were reported, but in 1940 there were only

329. Then in 1950, following the creation of a joint active and associate membership arrangement, the secretary reported that so many local societies had adopted the plan that from 3500 to 5000 names would be added. He could not give exact figures because the staff of the Society was overwhelmed by the increased paper work. Following another aggressive enrollment drive, memberships in 1974 total 4250.

Today the Society serves over 170 local historical organizations, acting as a clearinghouse of information on activities throughout the state. Our two major branches of effort are the publication and conference programs.

In addition to the *Chronicle*, a quarterly journal which keeps members informed of new ideas and programs in state and local history, the Society publishes an annual *Directory of Historical Societies and Agencies in Michigan*, and a *Speakers' Bureau List*. To foster better communication among historical groups, seven regional conferences are held annually, covering the state. The regional conferences have been enthusiastically embraced by local groups, bringing together representatives of local historical organizations for informal, stimulating exchanges on topics of common interest.

As was the experience with the Centennial Celebration of 1876, the approaching Bicentennial Observance has intensified enthusiasm for the study and preservation of our heritage. Thus, on the 100th anniversary of its founding, the Society is faced with the substantial challenge of guiding this reawakened interest to productive ends. Your help will be essential in meeting this new challenge.

### Notes

1. George N. Fuller, *A Sketch of Historical Societies in Michigan*, Michigan Historical Commission Bulletin No. 3. (Lansing, 1914); "Transactions of The Michigan State Historical Society," arranged by J. C. Holmes, *Michigan Pioneer and Historical Collections*, (MPHC), 12:316-350.
2. A summary of the organization of the Pioneer Society of the State of Michigan, together with copies of pertinent statutes and the Constitution and By-laws, is found in MPHC, 1:1-18.
3. "Address of the President, Hon. Michael Shoemaker, at the Annual Meeting held at Lansing, February 4th and 5th, 1880," MPHC, 3:106.
4. "Address of the President, Hon. John J. Adam, of Tecumseh, February 5th, 1879," MPHC, 3:1-2.
5. Report of the Treasurer, 1876, MPHC, 1:66.
6. Report of Secretary H. R. Pattengill, 1909, MPHC, 38:6-7.
7. Pioneer Society of Michigan Proceedings, 1879, MPHC, 3:8, 10-11.
8. Report of the Secretary and the Treasurer, 1905, MPHC, 35:5, 8.
9. Address of R. Clyde Ford at the Public Opening of the State Historical Museum, February 8, 1944, *Michigan History Magazine*, 28:188.
10. "Address of Hon. C. I. Walker of Detroit, President of the State Pioneer Society, at the Annual Meeting, June 4, 1884," MPHC, 7:2.
11. Treasurer's Report, June 1, 1898 to June 1, 1899, MPHC, 29:11.
12. Proceedings of the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society, Annual Meeting, June 5-6, 1912, MPHC, 39:39.
13. Proceedings of the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society, Annual Meeting, June 4-5, 1913, MPHC, 39:43-4.
14. The journal published by the Commission was called *Michigan History Magazine* until 1947, when Volume 31 appeared with the title *Michigan History*. See: *Michigan History*, 31:75.
15. The Constitution and By-laws were published in *Michigan History Magazine*, 27:206-209.
16. *Michigan History*, 30:769.
17. *Michigan History*, 32:395.
18. *Michigan History*, 41:496.
19. *Michigan History Magazine*, 1:127.
20. Report of the Recording Secretary, 1887, MPHC, 13:24.
21. *Michigan History*, 31:456.

# The Naming of Ann Arbor

## Wystan Stevens

Exploring the bleak wilderness of Michigan Territory on a cold day in February, 1824, Virginian John Allen and his partner in land speculation, Elisha W. Rumsey of New York, came upon a broad Burr Oak plain above the Huron River, nestling between the northern extremities of two ancient moraines.

A small brook with several tributaries ran down to the river from the western ridge of hills. Beside it, the pioneers selected a site for the first dwelling in the future city of Ann Arbor. The brook they named Allen's Creek. Returning to Detroit for Rumsey's wife, Mary Ann, the men registered their claims at the Land Office there. They had scouted the site of their future town in a one-horse sleigh. The snow was six inches deep, a man who met them recalled. Occupied with visions of quick wealth they may not even have noticed.

The location had a lot to recommend it. The land was flat and easily built upon, and there was abundant water power to run sawmills and grind corn. The Erie Canal had started the nation moving beyond its colonial frontier, and Ann Arbor was well situated for future trade. "I presume that it is the most delightful place for . . . an extensive village or city in the west," wrote a farmer who settled

nearby. Early settlement was rapid.

Many present-day residents are still confused about the origin of the name Rumsey and Allen chose for the village. A persistent myth would persuade us that their wives, a leisured pair, whiled away the warm afternoons sewing and exchanging gossip in a wild grape arbor built for them by indulgent husbands.

It is a very romantic legend, to be sure. But Allen and the Rumseys arrived in February, and we know that the name "Ann Arbor" had already been chosen by May 25, only three months later, when it was recorded at the office of the Register of Deeds in Detroit.

Spring weather in these parts is notoriously bad for gossiping in arbors. Nor was there much yet to gossip about. The husbands were really too busy plotting their village and selling lots to spend time building anything frivolous. Grapes weren't yet in season. And Ann Allen—the other Ann—didn't arrive until October, five months *after* Ann Arbor was named.

There is usually some truth at the heart of every myth, and this one is no exception. The brave wilderness settlement was indeed named for the two wives.

In all the world, there is only one Ann Arbor. If the first half of the

name is not in dispute, what then of the arbor?

Professor Russell Bidlack cleared up the mystery in 1962, when his paper on *John Allen and the Founding of Ann Arbor* was published by the Michigan Historical Collections.

"A number of writers," said Bidlack, "have assumed that there must have been an arbor of wild grape vines that served as a shelter for Allen and the Rumseys while they built their cabins. The word arbor, however, was commonly used in the 19th century simply to describe a grove or shady spot. Dr. Benjamin H. Packard, in recalling his first view of the village in 1825, wrote: 'The Burr Oaks were so thick in Ann Arbor and vicinity that the whole looked like a complete arbor.'"

"Arbor" is of course the Latin word for tree, and it is entirely fitting that its trees, which have ever been a source of pride to local citizens, should have inspired our city's very name. For more than eighty years, the official city seal pictured a single strong Burr Oak. Not until the 1950s was a rickety trellis substituted as the central motif, by a panel of city fathers who had lost touch with the true traditions of their town.

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Mr. Stevens is an avid local historian and a member of the Ann Arbor Sesquicentennial commission.

# Historical Library Tour

Thursday, October 17, 1974  
2-5 P.M.

Featuring:

William L. Clements Library

Department of Rare Books and  
Special Collections,  
Harlan Hatcher Library

Bentley Historical Library

Departure from the  
North Campus Commons

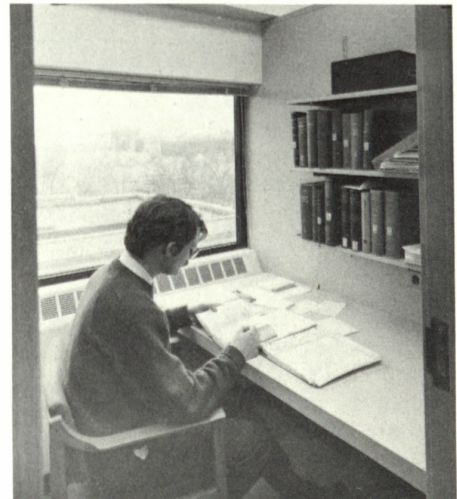
Tour concludes with a reception  
at the Bentley Historical Library

The Bentley Historical Library, located on the University of Michigan's North Campus, is the new home of the Michigan Historical Collections. Courtesy: Bentley Historical Library.



The William L. Clements Library designed by Architect Albert Kahn.  
Courtesy: William L. Clements Library.

Rare Books and Special Collections Reading  
Room, Harlan Hatcher Library.  
Courtesy: Daniel Bartash.



# 100th Annual Meeting of the Historical Society of Michigan

October 17-19, 1974  
Ann Arbor, Michigan

## ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAM

### Thursday, October 17

- 8:30-11:45  
Registration  
Bentley Historical Library
- 8:30-9:30  
Continental Breakfast  
Courtesy of Xerox University Microfilms  
Bentley Historical Library
- 9:30-11:45  
Michigan Archival Association Meeting  
Mary Jo Pugh, presiding  
Urban Records: Present Conditions and Future Potentials  
Donald Disbrow, Chairman  
Eastern Michigan University  
Dennis East  
Archives of Labor History and Urban Affairs  
"Municipal Archives in the United States"  
Martin McLaughlin  
State Archives  
"Municipal Archives in Michigan"  
Jo Ellen Vinyard  
Marygrove College  
"Some Insights from the Researcher"
- Business Meeting  
Bentley Historical Library
- 12:15-1:45  
Luncheon  
Mary Jo Pugh, presiding  
Luncheon Speaker  
Sidney Fine  
University of Michigan  
"An Historian Looks at Local Records"  
North Campus Commons
- 2:00-5:00  
Historical Library Tour  
William L. Clements Library  
Howard H. Peckham, Director  
Department of Rare Books and Special Collections  
Graduate Library  
Harriet C. Jameson, Head  
Bentley Historical Library  
Robert M. Warner, Director

- 5:00-6:00  
Reception  
Bentley Historical Library
- 7:00-  
Dinner Meeting  
HSM Board of Trustees  
Michigan Historical Commission  
Win Schuler's  
Marriott Inn
- Friday, October 18**
- 8:30-11:15  
Registration  
Bentley Historical Library
- 8:30-9:30  
Continental Breakfast  
Courtesy of the Michigan Historical Collections  
Bentley Historical Library
- 9:30-11:30  
The Automobile Industry: The Early Years  
Roger Van Bolt, Chairman  
Sloan Museum  
George May  
Eastern Michigan University  
"The Big Three: Olds, Ford and Durant"  
Philip P. Mason  
Wayne State University  
"Working Conditions in the Early Years of the  
Automobile Industry"  
David L. Lewis  
University of Michigan  
"Looking Through the Rear-view Mirror—The Auto's  
Impact on Michigan"  
Bentley Historical Library

- 11:45-1:00  
Luncheon  
Welcoming Remarks  
Frank C. Wilhelme, Director  
Historical Society of Michigan  
Robert M. Warner, President  
Historical Society of Michigan  
Honorable James E. Stephenson  
Mayor of Ann Arbor  
North Campus Commons
- 1:15-2:00  
Speaker  
Kingsbury Marzolf, A.I.A.  
Ann Arbor Historic District Commission  
"Ann Arbor Architecture in Historical Perspective"  
Auditorium  
Chrysler Center
- 2:00-4:00  
Bus Tour  
"Ann Arbor's Historic Architecture"  
Conducted by:  
Kingsbury Marzolf, A.I.A.  
Ann Arbor Historic District Commission  
Wystan Stevens  
Ann Arbor Sesquicentennial Commission
- 4:00-5:00  
Reception  
The President's Home  
815 S. University  
Hosts: President and Mrs. Robben W. Fleming

- 7:30-  
Past Presidents' Banquet  
President Robert M. Warner, presiding  
Clarence M. Burton Memorial Lecture  
William T. Alderson  
American Association for State and Local History  
"The Changing Role of Historical Societies"  
Win Schuler's  
Marriott Inn

### Saturday, October 19

- 8:30-11:45  
Registration  
Chrysler Center
- 8:30-9:30  
Continental Breakfast  
Courtesy of the Washtenaw Historical Society  
Chrysler Center
- 9:30-11:00  
Origins of Involvement: The Michigan Experience  
Honorable Martha W. Griffiths, Chairwoman  
Martha Bigelow  
Michigan History Division  
"Women in Politics"  
Dorothy McGuigan  
University of Michigan  
"Women in Higher Education"
- 11:00-11:45  
HSM Annual Business Meeting  
President Robert M. Warner, presiding  
Auditorium  
Chrysler Center
- 11:45-12:15  
HSM Trustees Meeting  
Auditorium  
Chrysler Center
- 12:15-  
Annual Awards Banquet  
President Robert M. Warner, presiding  
North Campus Commons

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# Historic Architecture Tour

Friday, October 18, 1974  
2-4 P.M.

Featuring:

Division Street Historic District

Old West Side Historic District

Historic Commercial Architecture

Washtenaw Avenue Neighborhood

President's House

Tour departs from  
the North Campus Commons

Tour concludes with a  
reception at the President's House



The Wilson-Wahr House, 126 N. Division Street, is one of twelve structures preserved in Ann Arbor's Division Street Historic District. Courtesy: Bentley Historical Library.

Murray Street in the Old West Side Historic District.  
Courtesy: Old West Side Association.



The President's House on the Central Campus of the University of Michigan is a landmark listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Courtesy: Bentley Historical Library.



# Washtenaw Historical Society: 117 years of searching for a home

Hazel P. Proctor

Last August 16, over two hundred members and guests of the Washtenaw Historical Society met at Hudson Mills park for a gala celebration of what they thought was the 100th anniversary of the Society's founding in 1873. However, a few months later, Wytan Stevens, unofficial county historian, discovered that the Washtenaw Historical Society had actually been founded in December, 1857. So, instead of being 100 years old we were 117 years old. According to Frank Wilhelme, Director of the Historical Society of Michigan, this probably makes us the oldest historical society in the state, at least in a strongly embedded spirit, if not in unbroken continuity.

Washtenaw County was only thirty years old when nineteen citizens of Ann Arbor issued a call "for a county convention, for the purpose of forming a County Historical Association." The call stated that these citizens, "being anxious that the history of Washtenaw County might be transmitted to those who may come after us, and feeling it a duty incumbent on us to unite with our fellow citizens in other parts of the county in securing an object so desirable and worthy of

our efforts, hereby issue a call for a county convention, to be composed of as many as are disposed to meet us in such a convention, from the townships in the county, to be held at the Court House in the City of Ann Arbor



Hon. John Geddes, familiarly known as "Uncle John Geddes" throughout the length and breadth of Washtenaw County, called for the founding of the Washtenaw Historical Society in 1857.

on Thursday, the 17th day of December, 1857, at 12 o'clock, M., for the purpose of organizing a Washtenaw Historical Society."<sup>1</sup> The minutes from that convention reveal that Mr. John Geddes "was called to the chair, and J. M. Wilcoxson appointed secretary." It was resolved that a committee of one representative in each township of the county be appointed "to awaken an interest in the towns." A committee comprised of one representative from each township plus the city of Ann Arbor, was formed to draw up a constitution. On January 13, 1858, the group met again in the Court House in Ann Arbor and completed its organization. The constitution was adopted, and officers were elected. The Honorable Munnis Kinney of Webster Township was elected president. The object of this original county society was "to collect and preserve the history of the first settlement and growth of Washtenaw County, and to publish the same from time to time, as shall be deemed advisable." The Vice-President from

<sup>1</sup>*Michigan Argus*, November 27, 1857.

Mrs. Proctor is currently serving as president of the Washtenaw Historical Society.

each township was encouraged to form an auxiliary society having the same object in view. There was to be an annual meeting of the county society each January. It must be noted that no women participated in this inaugural meeting, although they may have participated in the smaller township societies. There are records of various meetings being held through 1862, and the *Michigan Argus* reported the annual meetings. However, alas, there are no further records in the *Argus* or other county newspapers, for approximately eleven years. There is reason to believe the organization continued to exist and to collect artifacts and manuscripts for a number of years, but the bleak period of the Civil War apparently sapped the interest and energies of the population.

It may be assumed that when the state legislature passed a resolution in April of 1873, calling for the collecting and preserving of historical information relating to Michigan, the Society decided to reactivate. In fact, John Geddes, one of the earliest settlers in the county, and the person who called the original convention to organize in 1857, was among those who reactivated the society in August 1873. The organization was renamed the Washtenaw County Pioneer Society, and another constitution was adopted with specific objectives "to cultivate social relations, collect and preserve biographical sketches and historical facts and reminiscences, and transmit the same to future generations." Although women were admitted to membership in the Society at this time, restrictions required members to have been residents of the county for at least twenty years, and to pay 25¢

as an annual membership fee.

The first president of the newly organized Washtenaw County Pioneer Society was Alpheus Felch, former Justice of the State Supreme Court, Governor of Michigan, U.S. Senator and Law Professor at the University of Michigan.<sup>2</sup> In 1876, when the Society was incorporated under state law, membership requirements changed and only those who were at



Alpheus Felch—Governor of Michigan, 1845-1847. He became the first president of the Society when it was reorganized in 1873.

<sup>2</sup>It should be noted that in 1973, one hundred years later, Alpheus Felch was honored with an "Alpheus Felch Day" in Ann Arbor, when he was commemorated in speeches by leaders from throughout the state and a plaque in his memory was laid in Felch Park, at the corner of Huron and Fletcher Streets. The president of the Washtenaw Historical Society was among those who paid respects to his accomplishments and memory on "Alpheus Felch Day."

Early surveyor's instruments including John Allen's "chain & links" used to survey Ann Arbor.



least forty years old and who had been residents for twenty-five years were admitted. But in 1929, the Society realized that its "pioneers" were getting fewer and fewer, so the age and residence requirements for membership were dropped and the name was changed to Washtenaw Historical Society. The emphasis on the preservation of published material of the county was broadened to include the preservation of "relics." Over the years, priceless articles belonging to the earliest settlers were given to the county society for preservation for future generations. These articles include the surveyor's chain used by John Allen in 1824 to lay out the city of Ann Arbor, Ann Allen's fan, early scientific instruments, farm implements, carriages, wagons, sleds, wooden bicycles and skates, paintings,

furniture and clothing. This memorabilia, among which is Washtenaw County's first piano, provided the nucleus of our present collection of artifacts gathered over a span of one hundred and fifty years. Housing this large collection has necessitated some makeshift moves. Books, manuscripts and photographs have, for the most part, been placed in the custody of the Michigan Historical Collections, an arrangement which will be continued, as well as the Society's present policy of loaning items to various historical displays throughout the county. There are five active local historical societies in Washtenaw, and several outstanding town or village museums housed in restored structures, libraries and public buildings. The Ypsilanti Society has restored an 1860 residence for its museum. Ann

Arbor restored the "Kempf House", a lovely example of Greek Revival architecture, and the city is in the process of restoring a circa 1842 cobblestone farmhouse as a farm museum. Nevertheless, the majority of objects in the large collection of the Washtenaw Historical Society are in storage, waiting for the establishment of a county historical museum. The need for a permanent county museum was first expressed by Will Gregory in 1874, and today, one hundred years later, it is close to becoming a reality. Plans are being formulated by the Washtenaw Historical Society to purchase several acres around a historical site to create a "working" museum complex. Plans call for a main display building, auditorium, and craft classrooms in separate structures. A log cabin built in 1874 will be moved to the site, restored and furnished, as well as a one-room schoolhouse where teachers may bring their classes for actual classroom study. In addition, future plans for the complex include a grist mill, cooper's shop and blacksmith shop where students and visitors may learn trades of yesteryear. The present collections for the museum represent the past 150 years of life in the county and include relics from early Indians and traders who inhabited this area. After 117 years of collecting and planning for a county museum, the 1974 membership of the Washtenaw Historical Society is ready to turn the dreams of John Geddes, Alpheus Felch, William Gregory, and all the other early members of this Society into reality. The Washtenaw County Museum will be built in the very near future.

Chapin Piano—Brought to Washtenaw County by ox cart in 1827—Potawatomi Indians danced to its tinkling music while 12 year old Lucy Chapin played.



# The University of Michigan

## Howard Peckham

By act of the Michigan territorial government in 1817, the Catholepistemiad, or University of Michigania, was created as the capstone of a territory-wide educational system which it would supervise. Primary schools were established in population centers, and a secondary academy in Detroit. A Board of Trustees was authorized in 1821 to manage the University, which was to be supported by sale of designated government land. A constitutional convention was held in 1835 which provided for a superintendent of public instruction in the new state who would dispose of lands granted for support of a University.

The freshmen versus the sophomores in a pushball contest, May 1907. Courtesy: Sam Sturgis.



But Michigan was not admitted to the Union until January 1837.

With twenty-two counties organized and a population of 175,000, the state heard its new superintendent revise plans for education. He took charge of primary schools, while secondary education was to be provided through county branches of the University, each having its own trustees. The University itself was to have three departments: Literature, Science and Arts; Medicine; and Law, all controlled by a Board of Regents. A group of enterprising citizens in Ann Arbor promptly offered forty acres as a site for the University. The Regents

borrowed \$100,000 from the state legislature to construct University buildings and to operate the six county branches. Classes at college level began in 1841. Enrollment increased rapidly, fraternities and literary societies appeared, the faculty was enlarged, and a medical school opened in 1850.

Under a second state constitution, the Regents were elected by the people and given control of all University expenditures. The new board appointed Henry Philip Tappan president in 1852, and he introduced the German model of a university: in addition to the classical course he started a curriculum for a bachelor of science degree and raised money for an observatory. He called for a post-graduate program, awarded master's degrees, and opened the Law Department in 1859. Scholarships in the form of prizes were awarded to students, and research was demanded of the faculty, especially after the trimester schedule was changed in 1856 to two semesters and a long summer vacation.

After the Civil War a bulge in student enrollment made the University of Michigan the largest in the country, a position it held for four years. Two-thirds of the students came from out of state, and there were no barriers against races or nationalities. Partly because of its gratifying size and reputation, the legislature acted in 1869 to grant the University a fraction of the state property tax, the

Mr. Peckham is Director of the William L. Clements Library.

secret of its growing success. At the same time, the University began to inspect and accredit high schools, which acted as a tremendous incentive to upgrade them, as students could then enter the University without examination. Women were admitted in 1870.

University baseball teams played municipal teams during the Civil War. Interclass football began after the war, and intercollegiate games started in 1878. The University Musical Society began sponsoring concerts in 1880, and music courses were provided.

A Dentistry Department or School (the second one in the country to be affiliated with a university) was organized in 1875. Architecture and pharmacy were taught, and a Pharmacy school was opened in 1876. Forestry was taught in 1881, the first such course in the United States, but a separate school did not eventuate until 1927. The Medical school started a training school for nurses in 1891. Summer sessions began in 1894, followed by extension service to Michigan citizens and engineering research to benefit Michigan industries. The University Arboretum was developed after a gift of land in 1906. A student health service was provided in 1913, and the Michigan Union, built during World War I, was the first on any campus of a publicly-supported college.

The University participated in both World Wars through enlistment of faculty members and special training programs for students. At the end of each war, enrollment jumped with returning veterans. A second campus north of the Huron River has developed gradually, and branches have

been established in Flint and Dearborn. A separate School of Education emerged in 1921, and the School of Business Administration in 1924. Educational broadcasts began in 1925, although the University radio station did not open until later. Television programming began in 1950. After the war, the University formed a Great Lakes Research Center, a Mental Health Research Institute was started, and the Institute for Science and Technology was organized. Three new schools have appeared: Social Work, Public Health, and Library Science. The Ford Foundation made a large grant in 1961 for non-Western-world studies and continues to support instruction in Russian-, Near Eastern-,

and Far Eastern-history and languages.

Michigan's last constitutional convention, in 1963, continued the independence of the Board of Regents in governing the University. To accommodate increasing enrollment, the university went back to the trimester schedule in 1964. Student interests have turned from collegiate extracurricular events and parties to educational policies and outside social and political issues. Recruitment of minorities has altered the mix of students while not changing the goals of university instruction. Today the U-M in Ann Arbor is composed of 16 schools and colleges, which enroll more than 34,000 students.

Students preparing for exams about the turn of the century.  
Courtesy: Bentley Historical Society.



# Annual Meetings of the Historical Society of Michigan

## 1874-1974

Annual Meeting	Year	Date	Location	President elected	Residence of president
Orig. Meet.	1874	April 22	Lansing—Representative Hall, old capitol	Albert Miller	Bay City
1st	1875	February 3	Lansing—Supreme Court Room	Oliver C. Comstock	Marshall
2nd	1876	February 2	Lansing—Representative Hall	Jonathan Shearer	Plymouth
3rd	1877	February 7	Lansing—Representative Hall	Witter J. Baxter	Jonesville
4th	1878	February 6-7	Lansing—Representative Hall	John J. Adam	Tecumseh
5th	1879	February 5-6	Lansing—Representative Hall	Michael Shoemaker	Jackson
6th	1880	February 5-6	Lansing—Representative Hall	Hezekiah G. Wells	Kalamazoo
7th	1881	February 3-4	Lansing—Pioneer Room, capitol	John C. Holmes	Detroit
8th	1882	June 7-8	Lansing—Representative Hall	Charles I. Walker	Detroit
9th	1883	June 13-14	Lansing—Representative Hall	Charles I. Walker	Detroit
10th	1884	June 5-6	Lansing—Representative Hall	Francis A. Dewey	Cambridge
11th	1885	June 17-18	Lansing—Central M.E. Church	Henry Fralick	Grand Rapids
12th	1886	June 8-9	Lansing—Representative Hall	Merchant H. Goodrich	Ann Arbor
13th	1887	June 1-2	Lansing—Congregational Church	Talcott E. Wing	Monroe
14th	1888	June 12-13	Lansing—Representative Hall	Talcott E. Wing	Monroe
15th	1889	June 12-13	Lansing—Plymouth Congregational Church	Orrin Poppleton	Birmingham
16th	1890	June 11-12	Lansing—Senate Chamber	John H. Forster	Williamston
17th	1891	June 3-4	Lansing—Plymouth Congregational Church	Alpheus Felch	Ann Arbor
18th	1892	June 1-2	Lansing—Senate Chamber	Alpheus Felch	Ann Arbor
19th	1893	June 7-8	Lansing—Senate Chamber	Alpheus Felch	Ann Arbor
20th	1894	June 6-7	Lansing—Senate Chamber	Alpheus Felch	Ann Arbor
21st	1895	June 5-6	Lansing—Senate Chamber	Alpheus Felch	Ann Arbor

Annual Meeting	Year	Date	Location	President elected	Residence of president
22nd	1896	June 3-4	Lansing—Senate Chamber	Alpheus Felch	Ann Arbor
23rd	1897	June 2-3	Lansing—Senate Chamber	Cyrus G. Luce	Coldwater
24th	1898	June 1-2	Lansing—Senate Chamber	Cyrus G. Luce	Coldwater
25th	1899	June 7-8	Lansing—Senate Chamber	Cyrus G. Luce	Coldwater
26th	1900	June 5-6	Lansing—Representative Hall	Cyrus G. Luce	Coldwater
27th	1901	June 5-6	Lansing—Senate Chamber	Clarence M. Burton	Detroit
28th	1902	June 3-5	E. Lansing-Lansing—Chapel, Agriculture College and Representative Hall	Clarence M. Burton	Detroit
29th	1903	June 3-4	Lansing—Senate Chamber— Representative Hall	Clarence M. Burton	Detroit
30th	1904	June 1-2	Lansing—Senate Chamber	Clarence M. Burton	Detroit
31st	1905	June 7-8	Lansing—Supreme Court Room, Plymouth Congregational Church	Clarence M. Burton	Detroit
32nd	1906	June 6-7	Lansing—Senate Chamber	Clarence M. Burton	Detroit
33rd	1907	June 26-27	Lansing—Supreme Court Room	Clarence M. Burton	Detroit
34th	1908	June 3-4	Lansing—Senate Chamber	Clarence M. Burton	Detroit
35th	1909	June 2-3	Lansing—Senate Chamber	Clarence M. Burton	Detroit
36th	1910	June 7-8	Lansing—Senate Chamber	Clarence M. Burton	Detroit
37th	1911	June 7-8	Lansing—Senate Chamber	Clarence M. Burton	Detroit
38th	1912	June 5-6	Lansing—Senate Chamber	Clarence M. Burton	Detroit
39th	1913	June 4-5	Lansing—Senate Chamber	Clarence M. Burton	Detroit
40th	1914	June 9-10	Lansing—Senate Chamber	Clarence M. Burton*	Detroit
41st	1915			Clarence M. Burton	Detroit
42nd	1916	May	Lansing	Augustus C. Carton	East Tawas
43rd	1917	May 9-10	Lansing—Senate Chamber	Augustus C. Carton	East Tawas
44th	1918	May 28-29	Lansing—Representative Hall	William L. Jenks	Port Huron
45th	1919	June 3-5	Lansing—Senate Chamber— Chamber of Commerce Rooms	William L. Jenks	Port Huron
46th	1920	May 26-27	Lansing—Representative Hall	Gerrit Van Schelven	Holland
47th	1921		Lansing—Dining Room: Chamber of Commerce	Alvah L. Sawyer	Menominee
48th	1922	May 24-25		Alvah L. Sawyer	Menominee
49th	1923	May 24-25	Lansing—State Office Building	William L. Jenks	Port Huron
50th	1924	May 21-23	Lansing—Senate Chamber	William L. Jenks	Port Huron
51st	1925	May 15	Lansing—State Office Building	William L. Clements	Bay City
52nd	1926	May 28	Lansing—Kerns Hotel, State Office Building	William L. Clements	Bay City
53rd	1927	July 28-29	St. Ignace and Mackinac Island	William L. Clements	Bay City
54th	1928	April 12	Detroit—Detroit-Leland Hotel	Claude S. Larzelere	Mt. Pleasant
55th	1929	November 16	Lansing—Hotel Olds	Claude A. Larzelere	Mt. Pleasant
56th	1930	October 18	Lansing—Hotel Olds	Lew Allen Chase	Marquette
57th	1931	October 3	Battle Creek—Post Tavern	Lew Allen Chase	Marquette
58th	1932	October 21	Ann Arbor—Michigan Union	Charles A. Weissert	Kalamazoo
59th	1933	September 30	Kalamazoo—Kalamazoo College	Charles A. Weissert	Kalamazoo
60th	1934	November 2	Detroit—Book-Cadillac Hotel	Carl E. Pray	Ypsilanti
61st	1935**			Carl E. Pray	Ypsilanti



Annual Meeting	Year	Date	Location	President elected	Residence of president
62nd	1936	December 10	Ypsilanti—McKenney Hall	Smith Burnham	Kalamazoo
63rd	1937	September 17	Battle Creek—Post Tavern	Smith Burnham	Kalamazoo
64th	1938	June 9-11	Detroit—Statler Hotel	Edward D. Dimnent	Holland
65th	1939	November 16	Lansing—Senate Chamber	Edward D. Dimnent	Holland
66th	1940	October 11	Fremont—Community Building	R. Clyde Ford	Ypsilanti
67th	1941	August 16	Ludington—Gray Hall	R. Clyde Ford	Ypsilanti
68th	1942	June 19-20	Bay City—Wenonah Hotel	Chester W. Ellison	Lansing
69th	1943		Detroit—Wayne State University	Madison Kuhn	E. Lansing
70th	1944	September 22-23	Dearborn—Dearborn Inn	John Schuch	Saginaw
71st	1945	October 19-20	Grand Rapids—Pantlind Hotel	Robert H. Larson	Dearborn
72nd	1946	October 11-12	Saginaw—Hotel Bancroft	Willis F. Dunbar	Kalamazoo*
73rd	1947	October 9-11	Holland—Warm Friend Tavern	Willard C. Wickers	Holland
74th	1948	September 25	Port Huron—Hotel Harrington	Thomas B. Dancey	Dearborn
75th	1949	October 28-29	Lansing—Hotel Olds	Rolland H. Maybee	Mt. Pleasant
76th	1950	October 12-14	Dearborn—Dearborn Inn	Mrs. Donald E. Adams	Pontiac
77th	1951	October 19-20	Detroit—Detroit Historical Museum	Alexis Praus	Kalamazoo
78th	1952	September 26-28	Petoskey—Perry Hotel	Charles Follo	Escanaba
79th	1953	September 24-26	Dearborn—Fair Lane-Dearborn Inn	Mrs. Curran Boyer	Detroit
80th	1954	October 22-23	Muskegon—Occidental Hotel	F. Clever Bald	Ann Arbor
81st	1955	October 6-8	Flint—Hotel Durant	Victor F. Lemmer	Ironwood
82nd	1956	September 28-29	Niles—Four Flags Hotel	Henry E. Edmunds	Dearborn
83rd	1957	September 27-28	Bay City—Wenonah Hotel	Henry D. Brown	Detroit
84th	1958	October 17-18	East Lansing—Kellogg Center	Lewis G. VanderVelde	Ann Arbor
85th	1959	September 25-26	Kalamazoo—Harris Hotel	Roger Van Bolt	Flint
86th	1960	October 7-8	Albion—Parker Inn-Albion College	Marquis E. Shattuck	Detroit
87th	1961	September 22-23	Mount Pleasant—University Center	Roscoe O. Bonisteel	Ann Arbor
88th	1962	September 14-15	Dearborn—Dearborn Inn-Fair Lane	Hazen E. Kunz	Livonia
89th	1963	September 20-21	Grand Rapids—Pantlind Hotel	James M. Babcock	Detroit†
90th	1964	September 18-19	Flint—Durant Hotel	George A. Osborn	Sault Ste. Marie
91st	1965	September 17-18	Marshall—Schuler Hotel	Philip P. Mason	Pleasant Ridge
92nd	1966	September 24-25	Lansing—Jack Tar Hotel	Alvin Bentley	Owosso
93rd	1967	September 22-23	Petoskey—Perry-Davis Hotel	Richard Frank	Lansing
94th	1968	October 18-19	Kalamazoo—Western Michigan University	Maurice Cole	Ferndale††
95th	1969	September 19-20	Mt. Pleasant—Central Michigan University	Kaye G. Frank	Detroit†††
96th	1970	September 19	Rochester—Oakland University	Charles Snell	Pleasant Ridge
97th	1971	October 1-2	Grand Rapids—Pantlind Hotel	Charles Snell	Pleasant Ridge†††
98th	1972	October 6-7	Marshall—Civic Center	Roger Van Bolt	Flint
99th	1973	October 19-20	Niles—Holiday Inn	Robert M. Warner	Ann Arbor
100th	1974	October 17-19	Ann Arbor—University of Michigan		

\*Elected by trustees for 2-year terms. George N. Fuller became secretary.

\*\*In 1935, the Society held four meetings to celebrate the state centennial: at Grand Rapids, Jan. 26, at Mackinac Island July 4, at Battle Creek Oct. 5, and at Detroit Nov. 2.

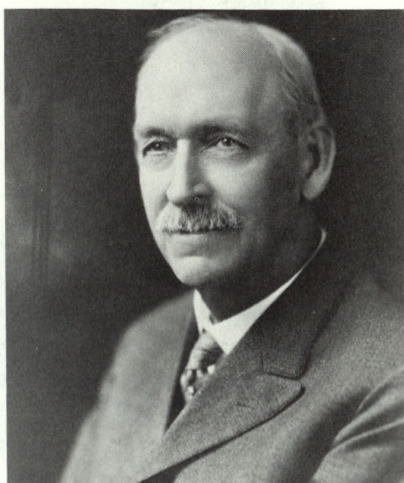
\*\*\*Lewis Beeson became secretary in 1946.

†William Alderfer became Executive Director. ††David R. Crippen became Executive Director.

†††Herbert J. Brinks became Executive Director. ††††Frank C. Wilhelme became Executive Director.

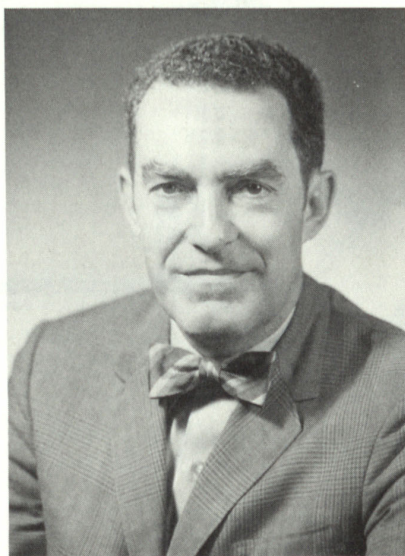
# Clarence M. Burton Memorial Lecture

In 1957, as a result of a generous grant by the Burton Foundation, the Historical Society of Michigan inaugurated the Clarence M. Burton Memorial Lecture in honor of the Detroit historian, founder of the Burton Historical Collection and past president of the Society. Since that time outstanding scholars have been invited to address the annual meetings of the Historical Society of Michigan. The 1974 Lecture will be delivered by Dr. William T. Alderson at the Past Presidents' Banquet on Friday evening, October 18th.



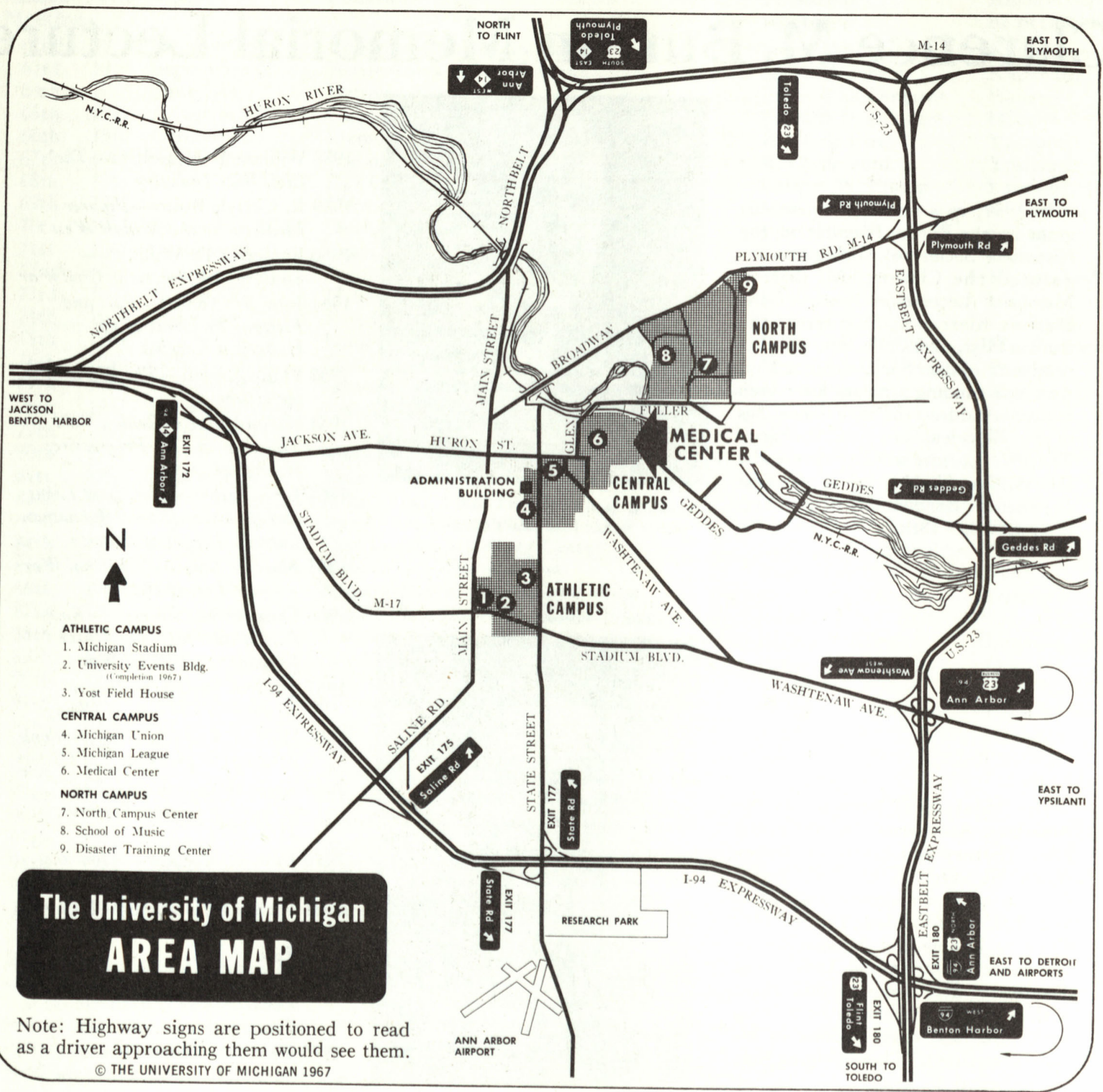
Clarence M. Burton  
Courtesy: Burton Historical Collections.

Dr. William T. Alderson.



Dr. Alderson is Director of the American Association for State and Local History and Editor of *History News*. He received his A.B. degree from Colgate University and M.A. and Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University. Prior to joining the Association, he was State Librarian and Archivist of Tennessee. Dr. Alderson will share with us his vast experience in working with historical organizations in his address entitled, "The Changing Role of Historical Societies."

- 1958 William B. Hesseltine—*The Civil War Industry*
- 1959 R. Carlyle Buley—*Pioneer Medicine in the Middle West*
- 1960 Frederick D. Williams—*Studying the American Civil War*
- 1961 John W. Tebbel—*Fact and Fiction: Problems of the Historical Novelist*
- 1962 Philip Jordan—*The World of the Historian*
- 1963 Clifford Lord—*Reuben Gold Thwaites and the Progressive Historical Society*
- 1964 John Parker—*The Great Lakes and the Great Rivers: Johnathan Carver's Dream of Empire*
- 1965 Alan T. Nolan—*The Civil War—Some Last Words*
- 1966 Clement M. Silvestro—*Rally Round the Flag: The Union Leagues in the Civil War*
- 1967 Thomas D. Clark—*Local History in a World of Change*
- 1968 Harriet Simpson Arnow—*Some Musings on the Nature of History*
- 1969 Reginald Horsman—*The Origins of Indian Removal, 1815-1824*
- 1970 John D. Voelker—*About the Historical Novel*
- 1971 Richard M. Dorson—*History of the Elite and History of the Folk*
- 1972 James Marston Fitch—*The Didactic Role of Historic Preservation*
- 1973 David Armour—*Remnants of the Revolution in Michigan*



# The University of Michigan AREA MAP

Note: Highway signs are positioned to read as a driver approaching them would see them.  
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- ATHLETIC CAMPUS**
- 1. Michigan Stadium
- 2. University Events Bldg. (Completion 1967)
- 3. Yost Field House
- CENTRAL CAMPUS**
- 4. Michigan Union
- 5. Michigan League
- 6. Medical Center
- NORTH CAMPUS**
- 7. North Campus Center
- 8. School of Music
- 9. Disaster Training Center

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