U. S. ARSENAL-SUTLER'S SHOP
1833 - 1875

BUILT ORIGINALY AS THE SUTLER'S SHOP
WHERE SOLDIERS MIGHT PURCHASE TOBACCO
AND NEEDED SUPPLIES, THIS 36' X 25' BRICK
BUILDING WITH ITS SLATE ROOF WAS BUT
ONE OF THE ELEVEN BUILDINGS WHICH
COMPRISED THE ARSENAL.

ENCLOSED BY A 12' HIGH BRICK WALL, THE
SUTLER'S SHOP WAS THE NORTH-EASTERN
MOST BUILDING IN THE ARSENAL SQUARE.
TO THE WEST WAS THE GUARD HOUSE OF
ALMOST EQUAL SIZE WHILE TO THE SOUTH,
APPROXIMATELY ON THE SITE OF THE
MASSONIC TEMPLE STOOD THE ARMORY, A
3-STOREY BUILDING 120' X 37' IN SIZE USED
FOR THE STORAGE OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT
AND FOR SOCIAL ACTIVITIES.

october, 1961

Published Quarterly by
THE DEARBORN HISTORICAL COMMISSION
The Dearborn Historical Commission has worked for many years against public indifference to preserve our rich local heritage. Evidence of their dedication to this cause is reflected in the two city-operated museums.

But, museums and symbols alone are not enough. If our heritage is to be preserved we must foster this objective through continuing communications with the people.

This publishing venture by the Historical Commission and the staff of the Historical Museum is an attempt to reach an everlarger audience. Their combined efforts are directed toward making this community a better place in which to live. One way to help accomplish this purpose is by making our fellow citizens aware and more appreciative of their past. In so doing, we will help them be better citizens in the present and of the future city of Dearborn. With this goal in mind, this publication is dedicated to Dearborn’s junior and senior citizens.

(Signed)

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Councilmen

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George Wm. Bondie
Edward J. Dombrowski
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THE DEARBORN HISTORIAN

Volume I, Number 4 October, 1961

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Published By
DEARBORN HISTORICAL COMMISSION
QUINN C. SMET, EDITOR

ISSUED QUARTERLY

COVER: One has to look closely today to see the old Sutler's Shop amidst the modern medical building on the corner of Monroe and Garrison. The old structure is, nevertheless, still there serving the needs of the community after more than a century and the new marker will remind future generations of a part of our local cultural heritage. The cover design was done by the Museum's Artist-Preparator, Mary V. MacDonald.
INTRODUCTION

HISTORICAL MARKERS

GEORGE S. MAY

EDITORS NOTE: Dr. May received the Ph. D. degree in American History from the University of Michigan. From 1956 to 1968 he directed the state marker program for the Michigan Historical Commission. Since 1968 he has been Research Archivist for the Commission.

Historical markers, defined in the broadest sense, are objects of stone, metal, or wood on which is found written information of a historical character. Such a definition would include such things as tombstones, cornerstones, boundary markers, inscriptions on statues and other kinds of monuments. Indeed, much of our knowledge of times past has been pieced together from an examination of just such materials.

In modern times, however, the term historical marker usually refers to a particular type of plaque, most commonly of bronze or aluminum, which relates the history of the subject it marks primarily in order to keep the present generation aware of its heritage, and only secondarily to serve as a permanent record of a site, deed, or individual. This is especially true of the system of roadside markers which Virginia began erecting in 1927 to acquaint tourists with the state's history in the hopes that they would thereby be persuaded to spend more time in Virginia.

Most states have followed the example of the Old Dominion. Michigan's program was inaugurated in 1955, and under the direction of the Michigan Historical Commission 130 green-and-gold, cast aluminum official state markers have been placed around the state where the traveling public can most easily find them and read their texts. One such marker is that to the Ford Airport which the Dearborn Inn purchased and which, incidentally, is the most elaborate of Michigan's official state markers that have been privately purchased.

Many more markers have been erected over the years by other history-minded organizations. The chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution both nationally and in Michigan have long been noted for this activity. A unique and outstanding program has been sponsored by the J. L. Hudson Company which has placed numerous plaques in Detroit since 1926. Another
group which has won widespread recognition for the markers it has erected is the Monroe County Historical Society which in recent years has put up thirty-five modern roadside markers at some of that county's leading sites.

The Dearborn Historical Commission, which has erected several markers in past years, is to be congratulated for continuing in this work which has become one of the most important and effective ways of informing the public of the history of a community or state.

HISTORICAL MARKERS IN DEARBORN

WINFIELD H. ARNESON

THROUGHOUT DEARBORN ARE MARKERS WHICH COMMEMORATE SOME PERSON, EVENT, STRUCTURE OR PLACE THAT HAS BEEN CONSIDERED WORTHY OF PERMANENT HISTORICAL RECOGNITION. THE SUBSEQUENT REMARKS AND MARKER TEXTS REPRESENT CHAPTERS IN DEARBORN'S PAST.

SUTLER'S SHOP: A sutler's shop of the 19th Century was the equivalent of the 20th Century Army PX (post exchange). In those early days each army installation was frequented by a sutler - a man who traveled from post to post supplying the soldiers with provisions and other merchandise. At the sutler's shop the men could purchase such items as: soap, toothpaste, shaving cream, candy, tobacco, sewing kits, towels, stationery, and trinkets to send home. Chances are that the sutler's shop was a very popular place on pay day.

The one-story building on the far right in the photograph opposite was the original Sutler's Shop of the old United States Arsenal, commonly called the Detroit Arsenal, here in Dearborn. The slate shingled building, one of the three smallest of the original eleven-building compound, measured 56 feet long by 25 feet wide. There were doors centered at the west and east sides of the shop, and the view seen here looks northeast from the central portion of the arsenal quadrangle towards the west door. Two windows (behind the clothesline) on the south side of the building, faced the arsenal grounds.

The historical marker which is to be erected in front of the remaining part of the Sutler's Shop will be dedicated on October 21, 1961. In 1877 some of the Arsenal buildings, including the Sutler's Shop, were sold at public auction. The original building was altered and used as a residence. At present it is the central part of the doctors offices at the
at the corner of Monroe Boulevard and Garrison. A number of additions have changed the basic structure in recent years but as one passes by on Garrison the outline of the Sutler's Shop is still in evidence, a reminder of a bygone era of Dearborn's heritage.

... the Sutler's Shop during the Civil War

CITY HALL PARK: Near the northwest corner of the old City Police Station on Maple Avenue in east Dearborn is located a plaque which honors a citizen whose life was short but full. This man was Dr. Edwin E. Hubbard who died in 1931 at the early age of thirty-four. Dr. Hubbard was prominent in Dearborn activities as a councilman, Medical Director of Fordson High School, member of the Wayne County Board of Supervisors, and as a practicing physician.

Text of the Dr. Edwin E. Hubbard marker:

THIS PIN OAK WAS PLANTED AS A MEMORIAL TO DR. EDWIN E. HUBBARD - SCHOOL PHYSICIAN - COUNCILMAN - ROTARIAN - PROGRESSIVE CITIZEN - 1897-1931 - CONTRIBUTED BY FORDSON ROTARY CLUB AND SCHOOL CHILDREN.
CITY HALL PARK: Some years ago the Boy Scouts of Fordson (now east Dearborn) planted some trees at the corner of Michigan Avenue and Schaefer Road. This marker not only recognized Arbor Day but also preserved the memory of Harry Brooks, chief test pilot for the Ford Motor Company. Mr. Brooks gave his life for the advancement of aviation so that others now living might benefit from the work he and others pioneered in the 1920's. He lost his life in a tragic plane crash in 1928.

Text of the Harry Brooks marker:

A TRIBUTE TO THE BOY SCOUTS OF FORDSON WHO PLANTED THESE TREES AND DEDICATED THEM TO THE PUBLIC ON ARBOR DAY -- 1928 -- IN MEMORY OF HARRY BROOKS WHO FORFEITED HIS LIFE IN THE PROMOTION OF AVIATION ON FEB. 25, 1928.

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH: On June 12, 1954, the Dearborn Historical Commission and the First Methodist Church of Dearborn marked the approximate original site of Michigan's first continuing Protestant church. The church site was selected in 1818 because the members had farms in the general region and so considered the area to be centrally located.

The ceremony dedicating the marker of this humble twenty-four by thirty foot hand-hewn log church was simply carried out as Bishop Marshall R. Reed led the ceremony. An attractive limestone base with twin bronze plaques which illustrates how the church supposedly looked in the early 19th Century is easily seen by the passing motorist from Butler Road just east of Greenfield Road.
The text of the marker:

THE FIRST METHODIST CHURCH IN MICHIGAN.
THE FIRST CHURCH OF THE OLDEST CONTINUING PROTESTANT SOCIETY IN MICHIGAN, ORGANIZED IN 1810, ERECTED NEAR THIS SITE MARCH 31, 1816, BY A CONGREGATION OF METHODISTS NOW KNOWN AS THE FIRST METHODIST CHURCH OF DEARBORN.

The suspended wooden marker reads:

THE SITE OF THE EARLIEST CONTINUING PROTESTANT CHURCH IN MICHIGAN - 1816.

FIVE MARKERS ON MICHIGAN AVENUE: Michigan Avenue, one of the busiest roads in the state today, was at one time called the "Chicago Road." Early in the 1800's this road was the link between the growing city of Detroit and far off Chicago. This early road was actually a muddy and dusty wagon trail. Two of the markers which are now located on Michigan Avenue near the old Toll Gate Number 3 (originally one of six on the route), are indirectly related to the historic road. The five markers were dedicated as a group on January 7, 1951, by the Dearborn Historical Commission and Parke, Davies and Company.

The Henry Ford's Home and The Ten Eyck Tavern markers have connections with the actual road. The road to Ford's Fairlane estate was once a public thoroughfare known as the Ann Arbor Trail and intersected the Chicago Road at this point. The Ford entrance and the site of the Ten Eyck Tavern are located just west of the overpass on Michigan Avenue at Southfield Highway. Ten Eyck's Tavern was a popular wayside stop-off during the middle third of the 19th Century. Mary's traveler spent a comfortable night at this early inn near the banks of the River Rouge.
The other plaques on this multi-level limestone marker commemorate: (1) Dr. Samuel Pierce Duffield who had a small medical laboratory some distance from the marker site along Michigan Avenue; and (2) a Willow Tree which Dr. Duffield reportedly brought to Dearborn from St. Helena Island in the South Atlantic Ocean about 1856.

In addition to the four bronze plaques, there is a suspended wooden marker which reminds the visitor that Michigan Avenue was once the main transportation artery between Detroit and Chicago. The actual wording reads thus:

SITE OF TOLL GATE ON DETROIT-CHICAGO MILITARY HIGHWAY DEARBORN - 1864.

HENRY FORD'S HOME

WILLOW TREE

THE WILLOW TREE, 50 FEET NORTHWEST OF THIS MARKER, GREW FROM A TWIG WHICH WAS TAKEN FROM NAPOLEON BONAPARTE'S GRAVE ON ST. HELENA BY DR. SAMUEL P. DUFFIELD OF DEARBORN ABOUT 1856.

THIS TABLET WAS PLACED BY THE DEARBORN HISTORICAL COMMISSION - 1950.

THE TEN EYCK TAVERN

CONRAD TEN EYCK (1762-1847) BUILT A FAMOUS TAVERN IN 1826 ABOUT 300 FEET WEST OF THIS MARKER - THE FIRST RESTING PLACE OF TRAVELERS, ONE DAY'S TRIP WEST OF DETROIT. IT STOOD ON THE RIVER ROUGE AT A POINT WHERE THE CHICAGO ROAD FORKED THE NORTHERLY BRANCH, CALLED THE ANN ARBOR TRAIL, LED TOWARD LANSING, THE WESTERN BRANCH TO YPSILANTI. THE INN BURNED DOWN IN 1869, ITS STABLES IN 1906. TEN EYCK'S HUMOR MAY HAVE GIVEN MICHIGAN THE NICK-NAME "WOLVERINE." HE SERVED DEARBORN TOWNSHIP AS SUPERVISOR, WAYNE COUNTY AS TREASURER AND SHERIFF, THE STATE AS CONSTITUTION CONVENTION MEMBER, AND HIS COUNTRY AS UNITED STATES MARSHALL.

THIS TABLET WAS PLACED BY THE DEARBORN HISTORICAL COMMISSION - 1950.

DR. SAMUEL FIERCE DUFFIELD

1833-1916 - PHYSICIAN - CHEMIST - PHARMACIST - ONE OF THE FOUNDERS OF PARKE, DAVIS & COMPANY. DR. DUFFIELD'S STATELY RESIDENCE WAS LOCATED ABOUT ONE-HALF MILE WEST FROM THIS MARKER. ABOUT 100 FEET FURTHER WEST WAS LOCATED HIS LABORATORY WHERE HE PRACTICED MEDICINE DURING THE LATTER PART OF HIS LIFE AND CARRIED ON MANY EXPERIMENTS WHICH HAVE AIDED MEDICAL SCIENCE.

THIS TABLET WAS PLACED BY THE DEARBORN HISTORICAL COMMISSION - 1950.
DEARBORN INN: At the Dearborn Inn on Oakwood Boulevard, not far from the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village, dual historical markers were dedicated on January 7, 1951, by the Michigan Historical Commission with the cooperation of the Dearborn Historical Museum and the Ford Aerosports Club. The side of the marker facing Oakwood Boulevard outlines a "Tri-motor airplane," and an appropriate text pays tribute to William B. Stout, a pioneer wizard in aviation and numerous other means of transportation. Mr. Stout worked closely with Henry Ford for years in producing and improving scientific achievements which most Americans today accept as part of their everyday way of life.

Text of the marker:


MICHIGAN HISTORICAL COMMISSION REGISTERED SITE NO. 126.

The other side of the marker faces the main entrance to the Dearborn Inn. It commemorates the Ford Airport, built in 1924, as an historic site in Michigan. A number of new aviation developments and features are inscribed which include: the first domestic air mail service in the United States and the first air-hotel (the Dearborn Inn) designed for travelers using this new transportation media.
Text of the Ford Airport marker:

THE FORD AIRPORT.
AT THIS AIRPORT, BUILT BY HENRY FORD IN 1924, WORLD AND NATIONAL AVIATION HISTORY WAS MADE, USHERING IN A NEW ERA OF FLIGHT EMBRACING THE ALL-METAL AIRLINER, RADIO CONTROL DEVICES, AIR MAIL, SCHEDULED FLIGHTS, AND THE AIRLINE SERVICES THAT THE GENERATION OF THE 1930'S CAME TO EXPECT.

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE WORLD:
A HOTEL, THE DEARBORN INN, WAS DESIGNED AND BUILT FOR THE AIR TRAVELER.
A GUIDED FLIGHT OF A COMMERCIAL AIRLINER WAS MADE BY RADIO.

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE U.S.A.:
AN ALL-METAL, MULTI-ENGINE, COMMERCIAL AIRLINER WAS BUILT.
A REGULARLY SCHEDULED PASSENGER AIRLINE IN CONTINUOUS DOMESTIC SERVICE WAS IN- AUGURATED.
UNDER THE KELLY ACT THE FIRST CONTRACT AIR MAIL FOR DOMESTIC ROUTES WAS FLOWN.
AN AIRLINE TERMINAL FOR PASSENGER USE WAS CONSTRUCTED.
THE AIRPORT'S CLOSING IN 1933 ENDED FORD'S EXPERIMENTAL WORK IN AVIATION.
MICHIGAN HISTORICAL COMMISSION REGISTERED SITE NO. 126.

COMMANDANT'S QUARTERS OF THE UNITED STATES ARSENAL: There are two historical markers located at the Commandant's Quarters of the Dearborn Historical Museum. In 1930 the Daughters of the American Revolution placed a plaque at the front entrance to the familiar brick building, with its wrought iron balustrade. This plaque commemorates 1833 as the year the building was erected as living quarters for the commanding officer of the Arsenal. The Aquila Sturges Chapter, now the Joshua Howard Chapter, of the DAR was responsible for this marker. Joshua Howard was the first commander of this military installation and, thereby, the first resident of this building.

Text of the DAR marker:

THIS BUILDING WAS ERECTED IN 1833 AND USED AS QUARTERS FOR THE COMMANDANT OF THE ARSENAL.
TABLET PLACED BY AQUILA STURGES CHAPTER DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION - 1930.
since the entire original wall was torn down after the public auction of 1877.

The original government specification records on file in the Museum library reveal the following data about the wall: "The surrounding wall to be 12 feet high and 2 ½ feet thick forms the arsenal square and if the distances thereon marked are summed up; it will be found that each side of the square has a length of 360 feet." A unique feature about this wall is that none of the eleven buildings were completely enclosed by it. Rather, the wall served as a link between each building either at an outer corner or a recessed side. In this way the total length of the wall and the number of local hand-made bricks for it could be kept to a minimum. In addition, since an arsenal is not a fortified enclosure, but rather a place for the manufacture, storage and maintenance of arms, equipment and explosives, there was no need for maximum security which is provided by a conventional continuous wall.

Text of the Arsenal Wall marker:

NEWS FROM THE MUSEUM

The feature article of this issue concerns the historical markers in Dearborn. We publish this article at this time to acquaint you with what has been done before in this area and to make you aware of what will be repeated shortly. On Saturday, October 21, the Historical Commission will dedicate the newest marker in the community at the old Sutler's Shop, the present medical office at 661 Monroe.

The marker dedication will be part of the annual Museum Fair. The Fair this year will be held on the lawn of the Commandant's Quarters and along Carrion in front of the new marker. A variety of events, demonstrations and sales booths are planned to make the day one that you will long remember.

One Fair event worthy of special comment is the auction to be held during the afternoon. Surplus items from the Museum collections and special gifts donated specifically for this event (why not give something?) will be "on the block." Those of you who have attended Museum auctions in the past will need no prompting to attend this one. Values galore!

The Museum staff is planning a training program for the Junior Curators. This course will include talks by noted persons in the museum field, workshops, and field trips. The entire program will run for twenty-four weeks commencing October 23rd. This will be a unique and outstanding program for the boys. If you know of a boy between the ages of twelve through sixteen who might be interested in this type of activity tell him that he may participate by simply calling Miss Mary V. MacDonald at the Museum for complete details.

On September 23 the Junior Curators received an award from the Michigan Historical Society at the annual awards luncheon in Mt. Pleasant. This type of recognition was long overdue for this group of hardworking boys who have spent many long hours helping the Museum with all kinds of projects.

During the past month the Museum Guild sponsored another book sale at the Commandant's Quarters. As in the past, the American Association of University Women's book sale preceded the Guild sale. We hope that the Museum Fair will be as big a success as was the book sale.

We will see you at the FAIR, Saturday, October 21, 1961.
BIographies

Each issue of The Dearborn Historian will contain one or two short biographies of Museum staff members, members of the Historical Commission, members of the City administration or persons prominent in local historical circles. Any suggestions concerning persons whose biography might be included will be greatly appreciated.

**Lucile Marshall.** About 1843 Jeremiah Newton came from New York state to settle north of Ypsilanti along the Huron River. Here his granddaughter, Lucile Newton, was born and raised. Upon graduation from what is now Eastern Michigan University Lucile Newton taught high school.


Mrs. Marshall was appointed to the Historical Commission in 1949, and is currently its Recording Secretary. She brings to the Commission a wealth of associations, a deep interest in local history, and the energy and enthusiasm to begin a job and to see it through. The museum has acquired many fine collection items through her efforts.

**Harry Molemaker,** Museum Craftsman, was largely responsible for the remodeling of the McFadden-Ross Museum and the restoration of the Commandant's Quarters. Mr. Molemaker began serving the City in 1953 after retiring as a private contractor. The restoration work on the Commandant's Quarters was more challenging and interesting to him because of the exactness required to put the building in its original condition. The reconstruction work on the Ross home, however, offered more imaginative and creative opportunities for him.

Mr. Molemaker claims that he has never liked to live in one world. His days are occupied with technical work and his evenings spent in the world of the intellect. His hobby is philosophy and the history of intellectual thought. Through the years he has taken several college level courses in pursuit of this hobby and hopes someday to travel to Greece to visit the land of the ancient sages. Mr. Molemaker came to New York from Holland in 1907 and moved to Grand Rapids a few years later. The Molemakers moved to the Detroit area in the 1930's.
RECENT ACCESSIONS

The Dearborn Historical Museum wishes to take this means of expressing a sincere "thank you" to the people who have so generously contributed to the collections. Without the generosity of these individuals and organizations, the Museum could not long function. The Museum is not in a position to buy the exhibit items it needs and consequently is dependent upon gifts from interested persons and organizations.

Mrs. LAWRENCE M. CLARK has given a Civil War sword and scabbard, a Spanish-American War machete and a World War I bayonet with cases. Mrs. FRANK DAVIES donated the "Journal of the Twelfth Annual Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic" (1890) and the "Century War Book." Mr. and Mrs. JOHN M. DOWNEY gave several safety, straight and Durham Duplex razors. Manuscript items (from 1800's) relating to early Dearborn families, books, and illustrative material were given by Mr. GEORGE DYE. A slat back chair (about 1860) has been given by Mr. IRVING B. PEY. Mrs. W. A. OLIMI donated ladies costume items (early 1900's) and a Meerschaum pipe. Clothing and accessories (late 1800's and early 1900's) and a photo of Carrie F. Travers were donated by Mrs. BARBARA GRUNEWALD. Mr. FLOYD L. NAIGHT gave several ladies costume items and a small bamboo basket.

In response to "The Museum Needs" appeal for 1900 office equipment Mrs. LILA HOLE donated a portable typewriter with case (about 1909). Mrs. SHERMAN L. HOLMES gave a Seth Thomas clock, a portable victrola, and a wash bowl completing a comode set. Mr. JOHN MACPHERSON has given the Museum "The Lathers Writings" included is a letter by John Lathers (1838). Miss JOYCE A. MAPLES added to our Church records by donating manuscript items of the Pioneer Methodist Episcopal Church (1909) and a postcard picture of the church. Mrs. CALVIN D. NELSON has given two early white cotton nightgowns. Mrs. EDWARD J. ROBERTS donated a ladies dress (about 1860). Mrs. SIDNEY RUBIN has given a (1912-1925) Easy Washer. Mr. A. W. SCHLUCHTER responded to our appeal by donating many books and magazines for our book sale as well as some nice additions to our library (1874-1943).

The following organizations have contributed to the Museum holdings: DAWSON-MURRAY ASSOCIATES, INC. (Mr. Frank J. Murray) donated five Bank of Dearborn branch office photos; the DEARBORN FREE METHODIST CHURCH (Virgil L. Raley, Pastor) has given "A History of the Dearborn Free Methodist Church" by Noreen Zebley; and ST. JOSEPH'S RETREAT (Sister Philomene) also responded to the Museum's appeal by donating a Printype Oliver Typewriter of 1912.
THE MUSEUM NEEDS

Remember these things? Of course you do, and probably with a great deal of relief that such monstrosities are no longer a vital part of your kitchen. Ice boxes, such as these, bring back many fine memories by association. We can all recall the thrill of following the ice wagon or truck on a hot August day waiting for a chance to snatch a small chunk of ice. Or other associations, the familiar kitchen smells of a generation ago - fresh bread, stews, roasts, coffee on the back of the stove. Or other memories more closely associated with these old ice boxes - like spilling the drip pan all over the kitchen floor because you forgot and let it get too full.

The Museum doesn't have one of these venerable old necessities. Maybe you thought such things are too new to be of interest to a museum. The fact is that they are not. We would like very much to have one. Someday we will be setting up a new kitchen exhibit and an ice box like this will be an essential part of the exhibit. Do you have an ice box like this, or do you know where we can get one for the Museum? We would appreciate your help in finding one to add to our collection.
COMMANDANT'S QUARTERS
Michigan Ave. at Monroe
Open 9 to 5 daily
Closed Sundays and Legal Holidays

McFADDEN-ROSS MUSEUM
915 Brady St.
Open 9 to 9 Mon. & Tues., 9 to 5 Wed., Thurs. & Sat.
Closed Fridays, Sundays and Legal Holidays

Telephone Logan 3-0221