

Society offers a stroll through Farmington's past

A peek at the Farmington of the Power family and Governor Fred Warner awaits visitors to the Farmington Founders Festival this week when the historical society sponsors walking tours of the area.

The Farmington Historical Society offers a potpourri of architectural styles during the free walking tour. Walkers can register at the society's booth in the Downtown Farmington Center, Grand River and Farmington Road. Tours leave at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., July 24; 11 a.m., 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., July 25 and at 2 p.m., July 26.

The Warner mansion on Grand River as well as the oldest home in the city are covered in the outing, which concentrates on the exterior of the homes. Different styles of 19th century farmhouses, reminders of Farmington's rural heritage, are included in the tour.

The Warner mansion at 33805 Grand River was built in 1867 by P. Dean Warner. The rambling veranda which surrounds the home was added much later to the essentially Victorian structure. The mansion, sometimes called the governor's mansion, was the home of Fred M. Warner who served as the

state's governor from 1904-1910. The home, four blocks west of the Grand River-Farmington road intersection is set back among tall trees and boasts a wide lawn.

IT WAS during family parties that the governor could be seen frolicking with the children on that lawn while his contemporaries took a much more sedate perch on the veranda.

One block east of the mansion, on the north side of Grand River, is 33910 Grace, home of the Mahaney family. Members of the family have lived in the same house since it was built in 1874.

Following Grace to Shiawassee visitors will see an early Greek Revival home at 33629 Shiawassee. The home, built in the 1850's, has been maintained in its original condition even to the siding. Greek Revival style, which flourished in the mid-to-late 19th century, features simple lines and high-columned facades.

Turning east on Shiawassee, the tour takes visitors away from the uncomplicated lines of Greek Revival to Victorian gingerbread (with colonial influences), as found in the house at 33613

Shiawassee. The home, built around 1880, started out as a farmhouse and ended up in the middle of town. But the facade of the house remains relatively unchanged from its beginnings.

The residence of Judge Max Hulet, 33501 Shiawassee, was built in 1845. The first story is the original portion of the structure and reflects 19th century notions of good architecture. The second story was added later.

NEARBY IS the Lee Peel home, 33458 Shiawassee. The home, built in 1844, was originally owned by the community's physician, Dr. Alanson Hudson. Peel has painstakingly restored the original Michigan Greek Revival architecture.

On the same street, at 33430 Shiawassee, is the site of the oldest home in Farmington. It was built by Percy Power, who was one of the original Quaker settlers who founded Farmington in 1824.

East on Shiawassee at 33309 is the home of Arthur and Nancy Leonard. It was built in 1841 and there is a strong Greek Revival influence in the building's facade. The rough-hewn wood beams are supported by mortise without the help of nails. A well in the back yard was a source of water for the early bucket brigades which fought fires in the town before the advent of the fire hose.

As Shiawassee curves into Warner, there is an example of an 1830 home with 1922 modifications at 23700 Warner.

Swinging back to Grand River, the tour will make its way to 33915 Grand River, the Pagel-Smith residence. Built between 1870-1890, portions of the home were damaged by fire in 1920. The original kitchen was destroyed in that fire and was renovated into a laundry room which still serves the house.

The dining room was used in the 1920's as a living room. The present day living room was a parlor at that time.

THE FRONT PORCH and entry which are used now were added at a later date. Stairways in the house are so narrow that the owners have had to remove a window to have larger pieces of furniture brought into the home.

A change of pace from mid-19th century architecture is the home of Fred Cook of Cook and Co., merchants of the old Farmington firm. The home on the corner of Grand River and Winmarth offers visitors a smorgasbord of styles. The oak woodwork and beveled glass of the French doors and the front door are part of the original structure and typical of the era. There are more exotic window treatments in the house with stained glass windows decorating the sides of the fireplace.

A turn back to the 1890s is effected by visiting the McGuinness house at 33283 Grand River. Typical of late Victorian architecture, the house has stained glass and leaded glass windows. The huge front room is paneled with highly carved woodwork. The home was built by M.B. Pierce, a member of an long-time Farmington area family. The house has a back room which was added when the occupants installed electricity and indoor plumbing.

IN THE BACK of the property is the original barn.

Further down at 32600 Grand River is the home of Dr. Ann J.H. Samborski. The home features Greek Revival accents and boasts an early Victorian-style Mansard roof with steep, elegant slopes. The oldest portion of the home was built in the 1840's and features a living room floor secured by wooden pegs instead of nails.



The home of Nancy and Arthur Leonard at 33309 Shiawassee is among the highlights of the Farmington Historical Society's walking tour of the town's points of historic interest.

Toulouse-Lautrec folio highlights art auction

A rare folio collection by Toulouse-Lautrec will be among the highlights of 550 items to be sold at the July 26-27 Stalker & Boos auction.

Titled "Le Cafe Concert," the folio contains 11 lithographs currently held by a private Bloomfield Hills collector. It is expected to bring between \$15,000 and \$20,000.

"To our knowledge, this is the only complete Toulouse-Lautrec collection on the market today," said Frank Boos. "We will attempt to sell it as a set since its rarity as such increases its value."

Another major work to be auctioned is "Early Lovers" by 19th century American artist Eastman Johnson. Bidding will begin at 11 a.m. Saturday and at noon on Sunday.

Stalker & Boos' two most recent auctions have been noted for major record-breaking sales. In January, newly discovered version of "Icebergs" by Frederick Church sold for \$247,000, while in May a rare Remington bronze sculpture was sold on the first bid for \$88,000.

Toulouse-Lautrec, noted for his experimental use of color as an abstract shape, was a 19th century prototype of 20th century color abstractionists. Using color to heighten and accent the linear rhythms of his paintings and lithographs, Toulouse-Lautrec displayed an impersonal, detached attitude toward familiar subjects of the theater and of the daily routine of the bourgeoisie.

Johnson, considered an American master, is best known as a genre and portrait painter. "Early Lovers" was originally purchased in 1907 from his widow at public auction in New York.

The auction this weekend will also include paintings and graphics by Renoir, Rousseau, Chagall, Matisse, Rodin and others. Among the important graphics is "Le Petit Manège, Rue Caulaincourt" by Jacques Villon, expected to sell for more than \$15,000.

Sterling silver, and stones, jewelry,

Oriental rugs and furniture will be offered as well.

The gallery is at 280 N. Woodward.

Local magazine receives grant

Green's Magazine of Troy, edited by David Green, has been awarded an \$800 grant from the Coordinating Council of Literary Magazines (CCLM). The CCLM spring grants committee met this April during the organization's regional meeting in Iowa City to consider 196 requests from literary magazines and newsletters.

A total of \$138,000 was awarded to 132 publications around the country. Grants ranged from \$200 to \$3,000. During the biannual regional meetings the board of 12 writers and editors approved the decision of the grants committee.

CCLM is a national non-profit literary organization/funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Council on the Arts and private sources.

Grants are available to non-commercial magazines which publish primarily poetry, fiction or other creative prose. To be eligible, magazines must have published at least three issues over a period of at least the past year. For more information, write the CCLM, 80 Eighth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10011.

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