

Museum reaches Shaker heights

The early 19th century lives on in Lebanon, Ohio



LEBANON, OHIO — If you are a tourist, you will probably see everything in Lebanon, Ohio, from the point of view of the Golden Lamb. You may turn right down Broadway to the Warren County Museum or the Glendower house, or you may drive southeast to Fort Ancient, but sooner or later you come home to the Golden Lamb.

Except home was never like this. At home, you are seldom greeted by a roaring fire and a bowl of mulled wine. At the Golden Lamb, you don't dine amid Shaker treasures and watch the morning television news from a four-poster bed in a room full of antiques.

Generations of innkeepers at the Golden Lamb have watched American history unfold since the early 18th century. Guests have arrived on horseback, in carriages, in turn-of-the-century automobiles. The 10 bedrooms are named after famous guests: Mark Twain, Charles Dickens, William Henry Harrison, Ulysses S. Grant, Henry Clay.

The inn, and surrounding area, make an interesting overnight or weekend stop for people who love old village streets, antiques, Indian lore, and good food and drink in an historic setting. You'll find it halfway between Dayton and Cincinnati by taking U.S. 42 seven miles east of Interstate 75.

The Golden Lamb doesn't serve breakfast, so you will probably have your bacon and eggs across the street in Village Ice Cream Shop, a bright room full of wrought-iron chairs and small round tables. The cafe is a cooperative built and staffed by local people.

Inn manager Jack Reynolds, or his assistant Frances, may be there. If a glass bowl of jelly beans appears mysteriously on your table, you can be sure that retired funeral director Bill Walker has been there. Jelly beans are his trademark.

Victoria Visintainer, "director and Jack-of-all-trades" is probably already at work 200 yards away in the Warren County Historical Museum, and you can be sure that caretaker Bill Chessman has polished the old furniture down the street at the Glendower State Memorial.

There's a long story about how the Warren County Historical Society bought, renovated and gave their best antiques to Glendower before turning the house over to the Ohio Historical Society; the local people didn't like what the state was doing to the house, so they start-



ed again with the present Warren County Historical Museum.

From the tourist's point of view, that may be a blessing. You can see all the grand old stuff in the Greek Revival setting at Glendower and a wonderful Shaker Collection at the in-town museum. Vicky will tell you that the street of shops was an idea copied from Greenfield Village, but you won't find Shaker pieces like this in many places.

The Shakers settled a few miles out of town in Union Village, and when they moved on they left all their hand-made furniture behind. Robert Jones, once owner of the Golden Lamb, bought up most of it, which is why the inn is full of Shaker treasures and Jones' name is on the museum collection.

A century or two is a long time to most of us, but the Indian mounds at nearby Fort Ancient date back at least 1,000 years before Christopher Columbus, which gives you another perspective on history.

Highway 250 winds steeply down through forested hills to the Little Miami Valley, and uphill again to the state park where three and a half miles of mounded earth, 4 to 23 feet high, wind like a fence around a hilltop site.

The Fort Ancient Museum shows how the Hopewell Indians built these mounds for ceremonial purposes, and how a later Indian civilization built a village at the bottom of the hill. The museum is open daily except Mondays. March through November, but you can drive past the earthworks anytime during daylight hours.

It shouldn't have surprised me that Bill Chessman was there too. He is a walking part of Warren County history: He once worked at the King Powder Co., where King's Island now stands, a few miles south of Lebanon; Nowadays he takes loving care of the county's history and its antiques.



Vicky Visintainer, director and "Jack of all trades" for the Warren County Historical Museum, adjusts a fireplace exhibit inside the museum. Visintainer said the museum took some of its ideas from Greenfield Village, but the Lebanon museum's collection of Shaker artifacts can be matched in very few other places. The Shakers settled a few miles out of town in Union Village, and when they moved on they left all their hand-made furniture behind.

hours of serving five dining rooms full of people.

Lights still glow on a few diners in the lobby dining room, and beyond in the Black Horse Tavern, but very few people are going upstairs to the rooms now and the gift shop in the basement is closed.

They have a full house here on weekends, and often midweek during the summer, but it's easy to get rooms off-season and you can often be lucky in-season. The rooms cost \$48 a night for two.

If you eat in the dining room, you'd better plan to go on a diet first.

For information, contact the Golden Lamb at 27 S. Broadway, or the Warren County Convention and Visitors' Bureau, 15 E. Mulberry Street, both in Lebanon, Ohio 45036.

School offers 2 unique British tours

Two unusual tours of Britain are being offered this summer by Cranbrook Institute of Science and Cranbrook P.M., both part of the Cranbrook Educational Community in Bloomfield Hills.

Dennis Wint, director of the Institute of Science, will lead a tour of Scotland, focused on natural history and archaeology June 24 through July 10.

The tour offered by Cranbrook P.M. is also to Britain, but it is a cultural study tour called, Britain: Legacy of Treasures. It will be held June 12-23, a date chosen so that interested parties can go on both trips if desired.

For the Institute of Science tour, Flights by British Airways are to and from Prestwick International Airport in Glasgow, Scotland.

A maximum of 20 people will spend one week, June 26 through July 2, at the Algas Field Center near Inverness. Sir John Lister-Kaye, British writer, who lectured at Cranbrook last fall, will host the group in his Victorian castle.

Accommodations will be in cabins (heated, carpeted, and with private baths) on the castle grounds. Meals will be in the castle itself.

The second week, July 2-9 will be

spent at the Orkney Field Center in Stromness, in the Orkney Islands. Participants will live in local village homes. That week includes tours of a 900-year-old castle, archaeological sites and a nearby seabird colony.

The trip costs \$2,350 per person, including air transportation, all ground transportation, accommodations, all but two meals, and a \$150 tax-deductible contribution to Cranbrook. The air ticket, which is regular economy fare, can be used to travel before or after the tour dates to allow participants to include other destinations if they so wish.

Call Wint at the Institute for reservations or more information: 645-4360. A deposit of \$200 will hold your reservation until May 16.

The focus of the Cranbrook P.M. tour is the country manor house, considered by P.M. program director Margot Snyder to be a "repository of British heritage." It includes three nights at Brickwell, a country inn in Surrey, visits to Knole House, Penshurst Place, Longleat House, Stourhead, Mompesson House and various castles and cathedrals.

The highlight of the tour will be a visit to Cranbrook, Kent, birthplace of George Booth, founder of Cranbrook Educational Community.

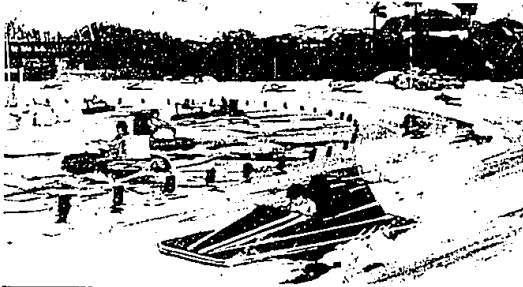
"George Booth brought all the components of this campus from Cranbrook, Kent," Snyder said. "That includes the school, the art, the church and the estate. He was too modest to name it after himself, so he named it after his birthplace."

The tour will also visit Sissinghurst Gardens and Compton Wyntles, the building from which Meadow Brook Hall was modeled. It costs \$1,849 including air and land costs, accommodations and meals, as well as a \$200 tax-deductible contribution to Cranbrook.

For information, contact Cranbrook P.M. at 645-2635. You also may attend the last of several lectures on the subject April 1 when the group gathers to hear Charles Lines of the British National Trust Advisory Committee talk about "The Glory of the Garden."

Atlantis rises

A giant water-theme park called Atlantis is now under construction in Hollywood, Fla., at a cost of \$10.5 million. The park will feature an 11-acre lake and more than a mile of water slides, chutes and tubes.



Three Michigan festivals make the 'Top 100' listing

Three Michigan festivals have been designated among the "Top 100" festivals in North America.

The Tulip Time Festival in Holland, the Bavarian Festival in Frankenmuth and Christmas at Dearborn's Greenfield Village have been so honored, according to the American Bus Association and the Michigan Travel Bureau.

The final selections were made by an independent committee of motor-coach operators and travel authorities in North America.

"Michigan is indeed honored to have three festivals designated in the 'Top 100' when you consider 50 states and 10 Canadian provinces were competing for this recognition," said Jack Wilson, director of the Travel Bureau, Michigan Department of Commerce.

While no state or province had more than three events recognized, Wilson said he feels other Michigan festivals and events soon will be recognized in this prestigious awards program.

"The motor-coach charter and tour groups in Michigan generate in excess of \$420 million annually," Wilson said. "All sectors of the state and local economy stand to profit, including hotels and motels, restaurants, stores and shops — the entire range of tourist and tourist-related businesses." At the same time, he said, first-time visitors will return later to enjoy other attractions and festivals in the state.

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