

Must preserve landmarks now

Awareness of local history is growing

By CORINNE ABATT

Church spire, Mt. Vernon, Independence Hall or Gettysburg.

In 1815 the territory was still regarded as a wilderness.

It was considered fit only for traders and Indians. Surveyors sent here by the national government mislabeled the interior as a vast swamp.

This impression is documented in John MacFie's "Early Days in Garden City."

"Major Daniel Baker who had been forced to abandon a fort at Saginaw because of the prevalence of malaria among his troops, reported, 'Only Indians, muskrats and bulldogs can live in Michigan.'

But gradually settlers came.

Young farmers came with their wives and a troop of youngsters, horses or oxen, farm and household equipment. They built their cabins, churches and schools and settled in

for what was usually a hard life, dawn to dusk in the fields, a few encounters with Indians, spurred on by a dream to carve a new life from the wilderness.

MEN LIKE Marcus Swift and Nathan Power, provided the leadership.

Swift moved his young family to what is now Garden City in 1825. He farmed the land, served as minister, circuit rider, township supervisor and outspoken abolitionist.

Power joined his father in the Farmington area in 1828. A Quaker, he tended his farm, served in the Legislature starting in 1854, took a strong anti-slavery stand and kept a diary which has become a valuable resource document.

As the communities developed and grew, the original settlements dis-

appeared, and the ones that replaced them have themselves been torn down to make way for parking lots, service stations and housing developments.

COMMUNITIES HAVE begun to realize if there is to be any preserving of original landmarks, it must happen now. Few are left.

The state and national governments have come to the same conclusion. The United States bicentennial celebration is the major impetus.

Law for preservation has been passed at both levels. It remains for communities to use the tools at hand.

On the national level, the Historic Preservation Act of 1966 gave rise to the National Register of Historic Places.

The National Register takes in districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects "significant in American his-

tory, architecture, archeology, and culture..."

The National Register operates as an arm of the National Park service, and properties nominated for the register are reviewed by the National Park Service before acceptance.

Evaluation is made on the basis of integrity, design, location, materials, workmanship and the association to the culture and history of the community.

Recommendations for Michigan sites should be sent to the state historic preservation officer, Samuel A. Miltstein, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Lansing.

JAMES BRYANT, historic preservation coordinator in the Michigan DNR, says, "The state is responsible for making recommendations to the National Park service.

"You simply write to the state preservation officer and make a request. Any background data furnished along with the request will speed up the process."

Listing in the National Register is not only prestigious, but it offers protection from threats by federally funded federally assisted projects.

Help is also available through the National Trust for Historic Preservation. This is a private non-profit organization chartered by Congress.

It is concerned with the preservation of historic houses, entire districts, archeological sites, industrial structures, gardens, interior furnishings, open spaces and decorative arts.

The trust acts as a liaison and coordinating agency for private, public and government preservation efforts. It offers advice on all kinds of problems from zoning to zoning.

MICHIGAN PUBLIC Act 169 is essentially a plan for local action to encourage preservation and aid in protecting historic sites and structures.

The state act sets the procedure for creation of seven member historic commissions at the local level, duties and areas of responsibility. The act provides for the establishment of historic districts.

It gives the commission the right to recommend to the state what shall be preserved. The commission administers the district and approves or disapproves changes to the outside of the structures proposed by the owners.

Local commissions may also oversee the use of public funds committed to historic preservation.

The national government increased its grant-in-aid funds by about one-third over the previous year.

As of last fall, it had about \$115 million to use for historic preservation projects in the 55 states and territories.



HULL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS look at a proclamation in honor of Metric Week. Livonia schools featured projects on the metric system during the week. From left are

Lisa Perk, Vinnie Vrotny, Amy Boda and Keith Prodin. Vinnie and Amy are sixth graders, Lisa and Keith second graders.

Job recruiting increases at WSU

Despite concern over effects of the energy crisis, college recruiting activity is continuing well ahead of last year's pace, according to figures released by H.H. "Hap" Harbison Jr., director of Wayne State University's Placement Services Office.

Harbison noted that recruitment appointments are slower now at Wayne and most other universities than in May and June, when graduation is near. But the year-to-year comparison is encouraging, based on figures pooled on a continuing basis by WSU and 155 other colleges and universities nationwide participating in the College Placement Council (CPC) salary survey.

The CPC survey is based on offers, not acceptances, made to students in selected curricula and graduate programs during the normal recruiting period of September through June. Reports are issued each January.

Engineering candidates and, to a lesser degree, accounting candidates still are the groups being pursued most vigorously by recruiters.

At the bachelor's level, Harbison said, engineering candidates received 59 per cent of the total offers reported. Another 18 per cent went to accounting majors.

Of the remainder, 12 per cent were

divided among general business and marketing, six per cent to biological

and physical science majors and five per cent to humanities and social sciences majors.

The sharpest competition is in engineering, with a 35 per cent increase in job offers reported compared with a year ago. Business majors received 25 per cent more offers and accounting went up 11 per cent. Marketing and distribution offers, however, dropped eight per cent.

Humanities, social sciences, biological sciences, computer science, mathematics and other physical and earth science categories all showed small increases in volume.

Among employers the most active

industries so far are public accounting, chemicals and petroleum, in that order.

Chemical engineers, at \$1,021

monthly, received the highest average salary offers. Metallurgical engineers recorded the largest percentage gain in average starting salaries, up 7.9

per cent to \$944 since the close of 1972.

73.

All engineering disciplines except engineering technology showed average salary increases of five per cent or more. The various business curricula generally went up four to five per cent with offers to general business majors averaging \$782.

The only discipline not showing average salary hikes were humanities (\$664) and social sciences (\$689), despite their gains in volume.

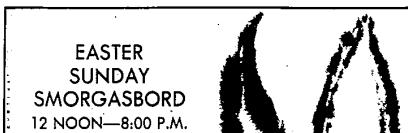
At the master's level, the number of job offers to engineering candidates rose 40 per cent but volume in business administration offers slipped seven per cent.

All fields of engineering at the master's level experienced average salary offers of five per cent or more above last season except mechanical engineering, up 3.3 per cent. Average offers for master of science engineering candidates ranged from \$1,072 to \$1,148.

At the doctoral level, chemical engineering led the dollar average at \$1,508, followed by chemistry at \$1,417, both showing five per cent increases over last season.

Egg roll Saturday

The National Honor Society of Clawsonville High School will sponsor an Easter egg roll for elementary students and pre-schoolers on Saturday, April 6, beginning at 12:30 p.m. at Botsford Park.



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By W. W. EDGAR

A few weeks ago our old friend The Stroller, genial president of the Detroit Board of Commerce, leveled a blast at our present school systems and really stirred up a hornet's nest.

In his inimitable way and with all the seriousness of an old time country preacher, he stated that present day educators devote too much time preparing students for college and not enough in training students for jobs they need for a livelihood at the close of their high school days.

He stressed that only about 20 per cent of today's high school students go on to college and the other 80 per cent are asked to take the same studies, even though they may be of little help in the world labor market.

With this he emphasized the fact that more time should be given to vocational training to fit a student for a job and not a position.

This sounded fine and logical to The Stroller until he met his old friend, the rural philosopher, the other morning.

We had just left the cashier's cage after paying our respects to the property. With a receipt in his hand, he smiled and said, "Something should be done about these school taxes. They are way too high. Each year they go up and there should be a limit for a fellow who hasn't any children in the schools. There should come a time when a fellow — say, at retirement age — should be exempt from paying the cost of educating other people's children."

With these words he echoed the sentiment of The Stroller, who, for years,

has stated that he is not opposed to free education — but that after so many years, he should be exempt.

In expressing this opinion, The Stroller has stated a willingness to help pay for putting up the buildings, but those who use them should be asked to pay for the operation.

He repeated this opinion to the old philosopher and asked what the thought of Dwight Havens' idea of starting more and more vocational training.

It was then that The Stroller realized how much of a hornet's nest had been stirred by the Board of Commerce chief.

"I'm not too much in favor of anything like that," he shot back. "Why should I pay to train fellows to work at Ford's or any of our big plants? If they want mechanics and the like, let them train them."

He called attention to the fact that General Motors had the right idea when it established GM Tech in Flint to train men for various jobs needed to keep the plants running.

So, here we are in May, ready to repeat The Stroller's of his own experience as a young lad.

Forced to leave school before his first year in high school was completed, he enrolled as an apprentice in the machine shop of the large cement plant back home. There was no such thing as vocational training in the schools, so it was off to work to be trained as a machinist. It was a four-year apprenticeship during which he received a mere pittance (five cents an hour) for a 10-hour day.

But the point is that the cement company trained him and paid him.

NOTICE OF SALE OF BUSES

SOUTH REDFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

26141 Schoolcraft

Detroit, Michigan 48239

KE 5-4000

The following vehicles will be disposed of by the South Redford School District. Bids will be received at the Board Offices located at 26141 Schoolcraft Road, until 4 p.m., April 22 and handled at the Board meeting scheduled for Monday evening the same date at 8 p.m.

Bus No. Year Make

23	1963	International (66 passenger)
27	1963	International (66 passenger)
4	1966	International (66 passenger)
6	1966	International (66 passenger)
7	1966	International (66 passenger)
22	1966	International (66 passenger)
30	1966	International (66 passenger)

Bids may be picked up at Board Offices at 26141 Schoolcraft. Mail requests should be addressed to Mr. J. Salvadore, Assistant Superintendent.

Vehicles may be viewed daily between 9 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. at Maintenance Yard located at 9652 Arnold (south of Plymouth Road).

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And upon his "graduation" he was fitted into the company's scheme of things until he rose to become superintendent of the plant.

So, somewhere in here may be the seed for arriving at a method of settling the school tax problem that draws the ire of many folks at this time of year.

Let's hope so.



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