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## Old school tied to area history



This one-room school building, build in the latter 1800s, is up for grabs...to families or nursery schools only.

By CORINNE ABATT

FARMINGTON HILLS—Want something different in the way of a home?

There's a one-room schoolhouse for sale at Thirteen Mile and Farmington roads. Salesman Howard Barron said the red brick Nichols school has been a real eye-catcher since his company sign was put in front.

He thinks the school is about 100 years old. Lee Peel in his "Pictorial History of Farmington" says the building was named after an early land-owner, and at one time it had both day and evening classes. The latter were in spelling, singing and writing.

BARRON SAID few things he has listed have created so much interest. People call constantly about buying it to open a dress shop, a flower shop or turn it into business offices.

"Many of them say they would like to put up a historical marker and keep the building in the same style it is."

He explains all this is impossible because the location is zoned residential.

"It would be ideal for a nursery school, and that's permitted under the

residential zoning."

The price is \$40,000 for the one-room structure and an acre of property. The owners have said they would be willing to sell the building and half an acre if the buyer wants to go to the trouble to get a split approved.

The age of the solid brick building is estimated at between 65 and 100 years. One story reports it is the third school on the same site, others say that isn't so.

It is possible. Education, according to Peel, began in the Farmington area in an organized way in 1830. Even before that, Nathan Power and Polly Mead were teaching winter and summer terms.

THE FARMINGTON Board of Education cleared the title and sold the school about four years ago. The present owners are Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Sherry of Farmington.

It may be that until the site is rezoned, the little schoolhouse will stand vacant.

Unless, of course, someone comes along who wants a charming building, solid as a bomb shelter, one large room with a boys' bathroom and a girls' bathroom, for a cozy home.

## Festival boasts twirling contest

An international baton twirling contest will be part of the 11th annual Farmington Founders Festival celebration. Competition begins at 8:30 a.m. at Farmington Senior High, 3200 Shawwassee, on Saturday, July 26.

Inspection will be at 8:30 a.m. for the festival parade, which starts at 10 a.m. Advanced solo competition will start at 10, followed by group competition by corps at 1 p.m. Intermediate and novice competition are at 3 p.m.

Judges for the all-day event will include noted personalities. Contestants are expected from Ohio, Indiana, Michigan and Washington, as well as other states.

Trophies will be awarded to first, second and third place winners in each division. The competition also will name the Miss Founders Festival Majorette.

For further information regarding the International baton twirling contest, contact Betty Huff, parade chair man.

**UP TO**

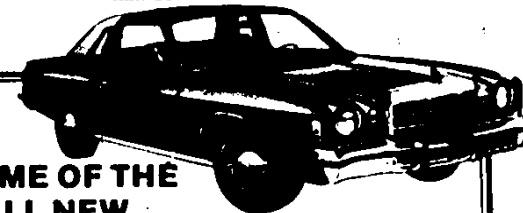
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