



Decorating Christmas trees with popcorn strands is modern and American but the custom of trimming trees dates as far back as the 1500s in Germany.

Cookies were soon added to the trees in the shape of flowers, bells, stars, angels, hearts and animals.

Then came the wax candles, ribbons, a star for the top, nuts, fruits covered with bright-color paper, dolls and glittering strings of beads, and other ornaments.

BEFORE the introduction of electric

lights, wax candles caused serious fire hazards in most homes. For this reason, candles were only placed on the Christmas tree for a few hours during the holiday season.

Christmas tree traditions are as varied as the different ornaments on the tree.

Holly has Christmas spirit

LOOKING FOR a bit of Christmas Past close to home?

It can be found in Holly, four miles off I-75 in northwest Oakland County.

For the past nine years, Holly has been decking itself in holiday finery. The focus is on the turn-of-the-century buildings in the downtown section, the Battle Alley Arcades' 12 individual shops and the original Holly Hotel.

THE FESTIVE atmosphere is enhanced by the Victorian dress of the

shopkeepers who prepare themselves for the temporary return of the Dickensian era. The 19th century street of shops will be visited by Scrooge, Jacob Marley's Ghost, Tiny Tim, Bob Cratchett and the Ghost of Christmas Past.

Every weekend until Christmas there will be carolers, strolling musicians, brass bands and a town crier calling glad tidings and handing out free gifts. Hot chestnuts, baked potatoes, apples and sausage on a stick will be sold by costumed vendors.

Oil Lamps...

Handcrafted, simply elegant. These crystal clear lamps are equally at home in a country or contemporary setting.

6" \$29.95 12" \$38.95
9" \$34.95 15" \$47.95



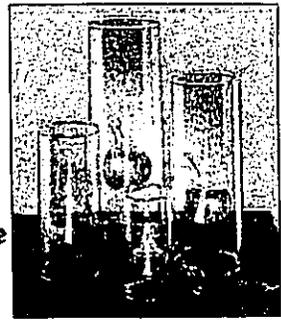
The Mole Hole

of Birmingham

193 W. Maple • 644-8233

HOLIDAY HOURS: M-F: 9:30-9

Sat: 9:30-5/Sun: 12-5





Creative Gift Ideas

begin at

Gallery Birmingham

Fine original works from \$30 framed.
Custom Framing 30% off thru December

Erte Jewelry

Gift Certificates

Posters

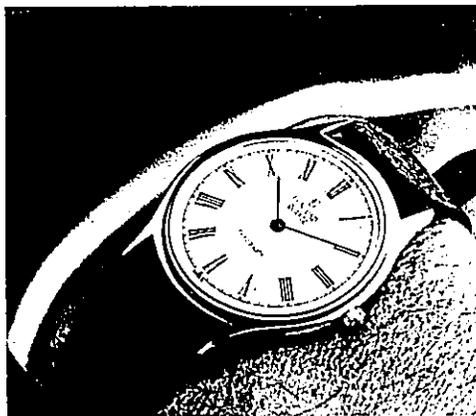
- All items specially priced
- Major credit cards accepted
- Christmas layaway

2nd Floor Merrillwood Mall
251 E. Merrill (at Woodward)
Birmingham, MI 48011
540-8505



CONCORD

From the creators of the thinnest water-resistant watches in the world, comes the CONCORD ROYAL MARINER, 4 millimeters, case and all, guaranteed water resistant to 3 atmospheres. Accurate to within 60 seconds a year. Never needs winding. Crafted by hand in Switzerland of 14K gold, the Royal Mariner is truly a watch of superlatives.
Suggested Retail His \$1290. Hers \$990.



GREENSTONE'S

Creators of fine jewelry for over 55 years

528 N. Woodward, Birmingham
(313) 642-2650

Mon thru Sat 9:30-5:30
Major Credit Cards Welcome

