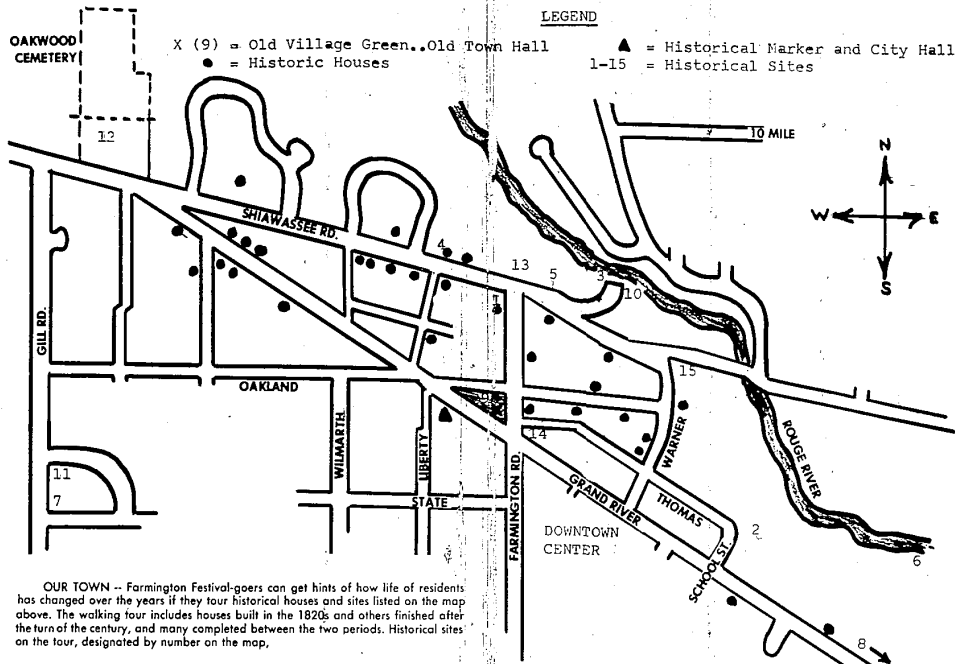


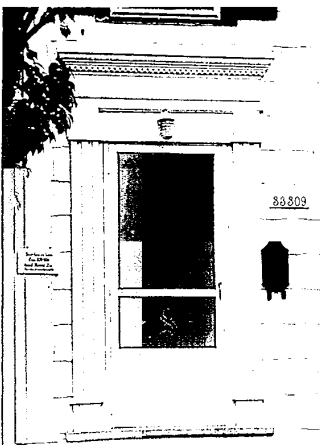
Walking Tour Guide Of The 'Old Village'



PUBLIC TOURS - Thursday and Friday from 4-6 p.m., this home at 3309 Shiawassee will be open for public tours. Guided by Girl Scouts, visitors will view the old community well in the rear of the home. Built in the 1850s, the home is now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur D. Leonard. (Evert photo)



OUR TOWN - Farmington Festival-goers can get hints of how life of residents has changed over the years if they tour historical houses and sites listed on the map above. The walking tour includes houses built in the 1820s and others finished after the turn of the century, and many completed between the two periods. Historical sites on the tour, designated by number on the map,



DOOR TO THE PAST - The door to the Leonard home also pictured above, bears a sign placed by the Farmington Historical Preservation Society. The sign reads "Stuart Leonard House, Circa 1850-56, Greek Revival Era." (Evert photo)

Old Village Tour Set For Festival

FARMINGTON A new feature of this year's Founders Festival is a walking tour of the city's "Old Village." Maps of the tour are available at City Hall and the Ebenezer Shop in the Downtown Center.

Settlement of the center of Farmington began in 1824 and the City of Farmington Historical Preservation Committee has picked more than 40 homes and historical sites within a few blocks of Grand River and Farmington Rd.

Two of the houses will open to the public for tours Thursday and Friday from 4-6 p.m. Girl Scouts will conduct tours of the homes of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur D. Leonard at 3309 Shiawassee and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Potter at 3321 Oakland.

The Historical Preservation Committee recommends Festival goers stop at the Bel-Crest Studio in the Downtown Center for a slide preview of the tour. The continuous projections will show most of the historical houses shown on the map and some of the historical buildings and sites. The titled slides were taken by members of the Historical Preservation Committee.

The walking tour is an outgrowth of the committee's efforts to have the "Old Village" named a state historical site.

The committee, helped by Louis Gibson, a researcher hired by the city, found and verified much of the history concerning the "Old Village." However, there are still discrepancies in some building dates and the committee hopes more information can be discovered with the help of those viewing the historical sites during the Festival.

The "Old Village" area will be marked by signs on the boundaries of the area. The signs, designed by Miss Candace McDonald of Farmington, an architectural student at the University of Michigan, feature a circular design with a silhouette of the Old Town Hall (Masonic Temple). The sign is round with the words "Entering 'Old Village' Settled 1824."

Miss McDonald also designed the welcome signs placed at the city's limits.

Both of the historical homes open to the public on Thursday and Friday are part of the Ebenezer Stewart Plat. Stewart was the son-in-law of Arthur Power, the original settler of Farmington, and was married to Mary Power.

The Leonard home at 3309 Shiawassee was built sometime between 1850 and 1856, the preservation committee found. It features the Greek revival style of architecture and the old community well in the back yard.

An outside cellar door and charming herb garden add to the interest of this "Old Village" home. The Potter home at 3321 Oakland was built in 1824.

Continued on Page 9B



HISTORIC HOME - The second home open for public tours is at 3321 Oakland. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Potter now live in the house, which dates from 1846. The house sits over a stone cellar with hand-hewn timbers. (Evert photo)

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