



# "The Clinton Independent" 1984

## NEWS and NOTES

### WHERE TO GO FOR HELP

● For general advice and information on restoration and preservation projects (including qualifications for restoration tax credits for which you will be referred to your State Historic Preservation Officer, who can also recommend local architects and contractors who specialize in restoration work), write The National Trust for Historic Preservation. If you live in New England or New York State, write them at 45 School St., Boston, MA 02108 (617-223-7754). Otherwise, the National Headquarters is at 1785 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20036 (202-673-4000).

● For specific technical restoration advice (analysis and color matching of original paint, consolidation and adhesion of crumbling wood and plaster,

historical research, etc.), write the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, Consulting Services Group, at 141 Cambridge St., Boston, MA 02114 (617-227-3956). You might ask for Sara Chase who is very knowledgeable about restoration techniques.

● For a useful book to read prior to undertaking to restore an old house, send for *The Old House Journal Compendium* from The Overlook Press, Woodstock, NY 12498 (\$14.95 paperback).

● For a government book called "Sources of Preservation Funding," write the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402 (202-783-3238). Enclose \$3.25 and include stock number 024-016-00157-5. The same office can provide you with a list of properties in the National Register—it's published annually in the *Federal Register* on the first Tuesday in February.

## County Grapevine

### MEMORIES:

#### ST. JOHNS STOCKYARDS NOW A MEMORY

Sept. 26 marked the last day of business for the Wolverine Stockyards at St. Johns. Begun by E. O. Prince 51 years ago, the declining number of small farmers in the Mid-Michigan area was given for the drop in sales in recent years. A number of older residents attended the last sale to recall when 3,000 head would move through the pens. Only a few animals paraded through the ring on closing day.

It was a bittersweet day for Joe McCrackin of Carson City, auctioneer with the company for over 40 years. He began at age 15.

#### CLINTON PUMPKIN COMPETES IN WORLD EVENT

Andy Todosciuk and Joe Swerts hauled a 365-poundunker pumpkin they grew to New York this month for entry in the World Pumpkin Confederation contest there.





York this month for entry in the World Pumpkin Confederation Contest there.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Gail and Lorene Foerch of Maple Rapids. Charter CCHS members, they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in October.



## Annual home tour



The Clinton County Historical Society Home Tour co-chaired by Betty Moore and Larry McDiarmid announce the 1984 Home Tour, "Christmas Past, Christmas Present" to be held Dec. 1 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

On tour this year are the Paine-Gillam-Scott Museum, 106 S. Maple; the John Bond home, 101 N. Ottawa; Ken Catlin home, 201 E. Gibbs; Mike Watson home, 504 E. Walker; the Albert Nelson home, 104 N. Swegles; Stepping Stone Development, (old hospital) 108 N. Spring Street. The feature home is the Millman-Rossett home, 305 E. Walker.

Miriam and I toured Alpine Europe from Sept. 8 - 23 & while it rained a great deal, we enjoyed ourselves visiting some of Europe's best known and most beautiful gardens. The Rhine River waterfalls at Schaffhausen may not be as spectacular as some of its American counterparts but it is visited by hundreds daily.

The most famous mountain peak - the Matterhorn - was one of the gems of our tour. The day was clear, cloudless and crisp. We were able to travel to the very base of the giant rock.

Our tour wound down with a trip over Germany's "Romantic Road," to the walled city of Rothenburg, one of five designat-



### PRESIDENTIAL POTPOURRI

ed European cities to be preserved forever in its' present state.

The European people expressed gratitude for the pre-

sence of American troops who were engaged in maneuvers under NATO while we were there.

(According to an old Gratiot County history Ford's ancestors were peasant Swiss farmers.)

THANK YOU to Frank Bishop (first cousin of Ford's) for the splendid presentation on historic sites along the Maple River at our September meeting.

(Frank is a CCHS member living in Owosso).

A slide presentation from the Smithsonian Institution will be shown at our Oct. meeting.

Ford Ceasar, President...

# GENEALOGY GAZETTE

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### SCUTTLEBUTT FROM MEMBERS

Bernadette (Bare) Palombit writes that "my father lived in Henderson and went to school in Elsie." She has his books complete with handwritten notes on the fly pages and wonders if any old Rochester Colony/Elsie school records are available. (Can any CCHS members help her?)

"My father's name was Albert Bare. He and his best friend and cousin, Ward Detwiler, were students in a one-room

school in Elsie." She believes it may have been the Rochester Colony School, she said.

She recalled "Dad was born in 1879" and as she is doing a family history on the Bares she seeks information on the school which he "finished at the age of 14 years in 1893" to go to Grand Rapids where he worked as an apprentice cabinet maker for four years.

His family moved to Ovid where his sisters married and lived for many years.

Anyone with information on the Bares may contact Bernadette at 26 McKinley Pl., Grosse Pt. Farms, Mi. 48236.



### Book Notes

#### NEW - ON THE SHELVES AT ARCHIVES

"Early Settlers of Rowley, Mass." a little history of families who settled there.

"Old Kittery and Her Families," about families in Maine.



#### CLINTON COUNTY RECORDS WELL KEPT

Bonnie Wickerham, Clinton County Register of Deeds, speaking to CCHS genealogists in September, said Clinton County is keeping land

#### CCHS GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

NOV. 15 The Smithsonian Institution has confirmed that a slide presentation, "Letters at War," will be here for our meeting at Capital Federal Savings & Loan in St. Johns. 7:30 p.m.

DEC. 1 CCHS Home Tour

DEC. 13 Christmas program at PGS Museum in St. Johns, 7:30 p.m.

#### CCHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Nov. 8 7:30 p.m. at PGS in St. Johns.....all directors are urged to attend so business can be transacted. We lacked a quorum in October.

#### GENEALOGY DIVISION OF CCHS

NOV. 5 Place/program information not available at press time.

#### PGS MUSEUM in St. Johns

OPEN: Sundays 1-5 p.m.  
Wednesdays 2 - 8 p.m.

#### ARCHIVES in DeWitt Town Hall

OPEN: Monday, Tuesdays & Wednesdays.



Early Settlers of Rowley, Mass.  
a lit history of families who  
settled there.

"Old Kittery and Her Families,"  
about families in Maine.

"Our Family History," about fam-  
ilies dating back to England.

"News Enterprise"..A collection  
of clippings from that paper's  
"Remember When" and "Do You  
Recall" columns and information  
on Montcalm County.

Booklet on the Hurd School in  
DeWitt Township was brought in  
for copying.

Scrapbooks from the Matthews  
Collection.

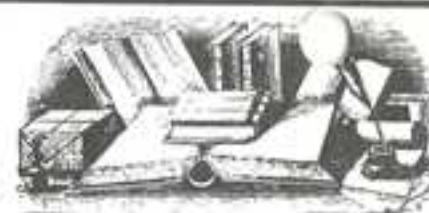
## CLINTON COUNTY RECORDS WELL KEPT

Bonnie Wickerham, Clinton  
County Register of Deeds, speaking  
to CCHS genealists in September,  
said Clinton began keeping land  
records in 1837. Among the types of  
records in her office are quit  
claim and warranty deeds, sheriff  
deeds, mortgages, liens, oil  
leases, death certificates, pro-  
bate papers relating to real prop-  
erty and many others.

While many records are on  
paper, since 1982 real estate  
records have been computerized.

All real estate records in  
the office are on microfilm with  
duplicates stored 85 feet under  
ground in a gypsum mine at Grand  
Rapids, she said.

OPEN: Monday, Tues-  
days & Wednesdays.



### STILL AVAILABLE.....

Copies of the reprinted  
1880 Clinton/Shiawassee  
County History Book.

Cost is \$40 plus \$2 postage.

About 25 copies are avail-  
able & the publisher said  
this will be the last print-  
ing.

Send check to CCHS, Box 174  
St. Johns, Mi. 48879.

## Order now for Christmas!

### MEMBERSHIPS IN CCHS MAKE GREAT STOCKING STUFFERS...ORDER NOW...

CCHS MEMBERSHIPS also include membership in the genealogy divi-  
sion. Contact Randy Phelps, 4203 N. Airport Road, St. Johns,  
48879 to order memberships for family and friends or call him  
at (517) 224-2283. It's a gift that will last all year.



LET US  
GIVE  
THANKS

Clinton County  
Historical Society

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