



MACOMB COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY &  
CROCKER HOUSE MUSEUM  
A LATE VICTORIAN HOME-LIFE EXPERIENCE

15 Union Street, Mount Clemens, MI 48043 (586)465-2488

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**We would like to thank the gracious homeowners and volunteers who made this event possible:**

**Homeowners:** Ashley Coleman, Michele Curtis, Ron & Nancy Heistand, Heather LaVerdiere, Laurie Longueuil, Kyle Moran, Amy Prosch, Clare Sawicki, Leslie St. Denis and Ray and Boni Trahan

**Volunteers:** Katie Annett, Gary Baarck, Judy Beyerlein, Bev Bishop, Mike Bradley, Ross Champion, Loretta Clark, Barb Dempsey, Diane Dueweke, Rick Dueweke, Sherri Gavie, Mary Gay, Joy Glover, Sue Grenier, Roman Hammes, Candy Job, Marge Kinzy, Dan Kirby, Brian Korth, Wade Leonard, Paula Loviner, Diane McDougall, Robert & Bonnie Norris, Linda Paton, Gary Peters, Sue Thiry, Lisa Welch, and Bebe Whyte



# Map of Homes



- |                                 |                  |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. The Henry Greanya House      | 219 Jones St.    |
| 2. The Jacob Klar House         | 228 Jones St.    |
| 3. The Christian Matthews House | 156 North Ave.   |
| 4. The John Fisher House        | 3 Hubbard St.    |
| 5. The Paul Matthews House      | 142 Market St.   |
| 6. The Robert Reno House        | 158 Clinton St.  |
| 7. The Julius Pingel House      | 154 Clinton St.  |
| 8. The Herman Broer House       | 152 Clinton St.  |
| 9. The Mary Meyer House         | 12 Stapleton St. |
| 10. The Fred Frenedt House      | 21 Stapleton St. |

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## The Fred Frenedt House

21 STAPLETON ST.  
CIRCA 1890

Fred Frenedt purchased this lot on Stapleton for \$250 from developer Martin Crocker in June 1890. He is listed as residing at 7 Stapleton (the house's original address) in the 1896 Mount Clemens city directory, so the house is presumed to have been built between June 1890 and late 1895.



Frenedt and his wife Minnie lived in this cross gable house for many years and eventually lost the property in a mortgage foreclosure in 1936.



On Oct 2 1943, Fred Frenedt died of a fractured skull when he fell off a platform at work at the age of 63. He was a carpenter with Electromaster Corp. and was living at 560 Sheridan in Mount Clemens at the time.

By 1938, Clarence Rivard and his wife Ellen moved from their home at 36

Stapleton to 12 Stapleton. At the time of living at 21 Stapleton, Clarence was working at Krauseneck's.

# 9 *The Mary Meyer House*

12 STAPLETON ST.  
PRE-1895

Mary Meyer, the widow of Theodore Meyer, moved with her children from Detroit to Mount Clemens in 1896, after the death of her husband in 1895. Once in Mount Clemens, she rented this house from Mary Mathews and by 1905, she purchased the house.



Mary and her family lived in this frame house until she decided to build a bigger home on the lot. In 1914, she had this frame house moved to its current location at the back of her lot so a new brick house could be erected in its place on the front of the lot at 140 Clinton Street. The old frame house you see today was given the address of 12 Stapleton and first appeared in the 1915-16 Mount Clemens City Directory as being vacant, indicating that the brick house was likely built in 1914.



The frame house, in its new location, was rented to Fred Peters and his wife in 1917 while he worked at the Park Hotel as a clerk. In 1921, Adolph Campau and his wife Julia moved into the house while he was a driver for the Jordan Creamery. In 1925, Flavian Petitpren and his wife Marie moved into this home while he worked as a meat cutter at Petitpren Brothers at 59 Walnut St.

In 1935, Adolph Sieg and his wife Anna (pictured with her children) moved into this house and lived there for several decades until his death in 1965. After his death, his wife Anna continued to live in the house and she herself passed

away ten years later at the age of 93.

# WELCOME!

Welcome to the 3rd Annual Macomb County Historical Society Porch Walk. You'll see a number of different styles of homes and automobiles while on your journey today.

This year, we've tried to make your walk from house to house easier with the incorporation of QR codes. Simply open the camera app and hold your device so that the QR code appears in the viewfinder in the camera app. Then tap the notification to open the link associated with the QR code. This should give you navigation directions to the home listed.



Turn on camera app

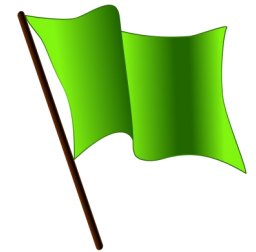


Frame the QR



Click the pop-up

- **LOOK FOR THE GREEN FLAGS** You can also easily find the homes on today's tour with the placement of large green flags positioned out front of the home.
- This is a walking tour. If you choose to drive your vehicle during this tour, please be aware that many of the streets have no parking in some areas and S.B. Gratiot is a ONE WAY street.



- Today's tour has a walking distance of one mile.
- If you need a ride to your car anytime during the tour, call or text 248 396-9610 and we will have a golf cart pick you up! 2

# Antique Automobile Display

**1908 Brush Automobile** Made in Detroit, this one cylinder car has seven horsepower and has a wooden frame, body and axle.

**1926 Ford Model T Coup.** This automobile has four cylinders and seven horsepower.

**1930 Ford Model A** This automobile has four cylinders and twenty horsepower.



While checking out the vehicles, be sure to check out the “Ban-Joes” who will be performing at this station.

# Airstream Station

Did you know Mount Clemens used to be the home to the Covered Wagon Travel Trailer Company?

The residents at the Pingel house at 154 Clinton once worked there in the 1930s. The company was once located along Cass Ave. near the train tracks.



Be sure to stop at our vintage 1964 Airstream while on the route to pick up a treat and listen to live music being performed.

# 8 The Herman Broer House

152 CLINTON ST.  
1876

George and Matilda Van Eps sold lot 10 of their subdivision in Mount Clemens to German immigrant Herman Broer in December 1875, for \$200.

By 1880, the census documented the Broer Family living on the property which included Herman H Broer (34), his wife Mary (29), and three daughters - Mena (5), Anna (2) and Caroline (1).

In 1881, the Broers sold the property to William and Agnes Tyre for \$800, and the Tyres, in turn, sold it to Alois and Louisa Eyth for the identical price in 1883.

The Eyth family occupied the home for the next six decades. Alois and Louisa Eyth passed the home on to Roman Eyth in 1901, and he continued to live there until his death in 1949.

Roman Eyth was born in Germany in 1863 and came to the U.S. with his family at the age of 14. He married Anna H. Hauff (pictured) in Mount



Clemens in 1906. He began his business career at the age of 19, serving as a desk clerk at the Sherman House (pictured) on the corner of Cass & Gratiot Avenues. He advanced to the position of manager and subsequently leased the hotel in partnership with Max Hermann. He later became associated with Mrs. John R. Murphy in the operation of the Clementine bath house. He died at 152 Clinton on February 15, 1949.



## 7 *The Julius Pingel House*

154 CLINTON ST.  
PRE-1896

The original address to the Pingel House was 44 Clinton before renumbering to 154. Julius Pingel and his wife Anna, who were married in 1885, are documented as living in this home in 1896. They had eleven children over a 23-year period who were raised in this home. In 1912, their son Clarence died of pneumonia and tubercular peritonium at the age of sixteen at the house.



Julius was a member of the “Old Crowd” and worked at the Palace Livery (pictured), which was on the corner of Macomb St. and N. Walnut at 41 N. Walnut. By 1913, Julius had become the owner of the Palace Livery & Pingel Building. Under his ownership, the Palace Livery Co. moved to 103-105 Macomb St. and was often referred as the “Hack Barn.”



In 1919, the Pingel Family moved from this house to a new neighborhood being developed at 79 Ahrens Ave (pictured).

In 1923, a widow named Mrs. Leanore E. Willett and her son Clarence moved into the home. In 1937, Clarence died of chronic alcoholism and cirrhosis of the liver on Jan 13th and was buried at St. Peter Cemetery.



## *The Crocker House*

15 UNIONS ST.  
1869

The first Mayor of Mount Clemens, Joshua Dickinson, built the Crocker House, an Italianate style home, in 1869. His daughter, Katherine, the great-granddaughter of city founder Christian



Clemens, and his son-in-law, George M. Crocker, moved into the house after their marriage in 1870.

George Crocker, a former prosecuting attorney and justice of the peace, became mayor upon Joshua Dickinson’s death which occurred less than one month after he took office.

The house was moved in 1908 to make room for a new post office, but the Crocker family remained in the home and owned the house until 1921.

Max Cohen purchased the home and remodeled it into four apartments. He continued to live in the home until his new residence was built in 1927.

Harry Chevalier purchased the home in 1934 and resided there until the 1970s when the Michigan State Highway Department purchased the home for \$17,000. Slated for removal or demolition, in 1975 it was rescued by the Macomb County Historical Society, which moved it to Union Street in 1976 for use as a local history museum.

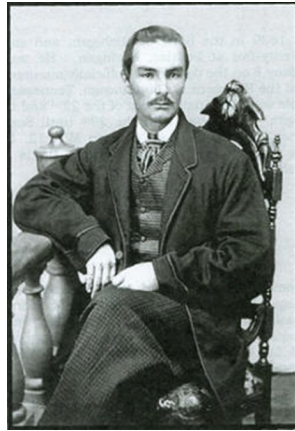
### **Navigation to the Porch Walk from Crocker House.**

Take Union Street going west until you reach Washington Street. Turn right on Washington St until you reach Gallup St. Turn Right on Gallup St and pass North Ave and the Church Parking Lot will be on your Right along Gallup St.

# 1 The Henry Greanya House

219 JONES ST.  
PRE-1899

The first documented resident of 219 Jones is Henry Greanya, who lived there from 1899 to 1900. The next year, Henry Schultz moved into the home and worked as a laborer.



By 1902, George Whitney (right) left his farm on 23 Mile Rd. and moved into the home with his wife Martha (left).



On Nov. 14, 1904, George C. Whitney died of meningitis and was buried at the Whitney Cemetery two days later. His wife Martha of 28 years remained in the home after his death and shared the home with Arthur Rosso and his wife Grace. Arthur Rosso worked a milk route and later, in

1917, became Dep. Sheriff.

By 1920, Robert B. Nunneley (right) and his wife Anna moved into the home from their farm in New Haven.



Robert was known as a gardener and landscaper. By 1930, Robert was working as an auto welder while still gardening and living with his two sons, Ralph and his adopted son William. Robert lived in the home until at least 1966.



# 6 The Robert Reno House

158 CLINTON ST.  
PRE-1896

Robert Reno and his son of the same name lived in this home in 1896. At the time, the address to the home was known as 46 Clinton St. The son worked as a porter at the Hall House, which was one of many boarding houses in Mount Clemens due to the growing bath industry.



By 1899, Frank Reno is also shown living in the home where he worked as a railroad employee. In January of 1904, Frank passed away at the home at the early age of 22. He passed from peritonitis from appendicitis and was buried at St. Peter Cemetery.

In 1911, Charles Martimer and his wife Anna (pictured) are shown to be living at the home. Charles worked as a gardener at Saint Joseph Sanitarium and Bath House (pictured), which still stands today on

North Ave.

Charles and Anna would live at 158 Clinton for many decades until his death the day after Christmas in 1949. Anna would live in the home until at least 1966 and she passed away in 1981.



## 5 *The Paul Matthews House*

142 MARKET ST.  
1907

Paul Matthews (1873-1947) purchased this lot adjacent to his parents' home in September 1907 for \$1800. The house is presumed to have been built soon afterward, as Matthews is shown as a resident at this address at the time of the 1910 federal census.

Paul Matthews was in business with his father and



brothers in the Matthews livery stable at the corner of Court and Market streets in Mount Clemens.

Matthews owned the house only for a short time, selling it in 1913 to Charles R. Ullrich and his wife Felicitas "Fay" Heine Ullrich (pictured). Charles was the vice president of Ullrich Hardware Co (pictured right).

Ullrich, in turn, sold it to Frank and Alice Pringnitz in 1916, and they owned the house

for several decades.

Frank Pringnitz worked at his father's store, Pringnitz and Sons grocery at 69 N. Front Street in Mount Clemens. After the grocery business closed during the Depression, Frank worked at the post exchange at Selfridge Air Force Base, at Hubbard Funeral Home, and at Farber's Hardware in Mount Clemens.



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## 2 *The Jacob Klar House*

228 JONES ST.  
CIRCA 1897

Jacob and Christina Klar purchased Lot 30, block 2, Elizabeth K. Gallup's Addition to the City of Mount Clemens in March 1890. Since the address of 228 Jones first appears in the 1899 City Directory and the Klar family is shown living elsewhere in 1896 directory, the house is presumed to have been built about 1897 or 1898.



Jacob and Christina Klar were married in 1877 in Germany. By 1900, the house is documented as having many family members including Jacob (47), Christine (48), Anna (23), Henry (19), John (17), George (15), Clarence (13), Paul (7) and Tina (6). During this time Jacob was a Brewer, and their daughter Anna is listed as a domestic servant.

In 1901, their daughter Anna Klar left 228 Jones to marry Jacob Kranich, a tailor from Blue Island, IL. Pastor Hermann Gundert presided at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in Mt. Clemens in a German ceremony.

In 1940, Carl Stier, at 23 years old, registered for the WWII draft.



He and wife Zoe Stier lived at 228 Jones St. and he worked for Chrysler on Mound Road. They lived there about ten years. He worked for Dodge Truck, then opened his own hardware/car maintenance shop at

the corner of Cass Ave. and Miller St. (building still standing). He then moved out to a shop and home on Romeo Plank Road. Pictured is Carl Stier, working at his gas station in the 1940s.

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## 3 *The Christian Matthews House*

156 NORTH AVE.  
1888-1892

Christian Matthews and his wife, Julia, purchased the lot where the house sits on North Avenue for \$200 in January 1888. The house is presumed to have been built either during their ownership, or that of their son. The couple decided the property to their son, Christian F. Matthews, in April 1889.

According to his death notice in the Mount Clemens Press of January 21, 1892, Christian Matthews, Sr. died in the house of pneumonia.

The couple's son, Christian F. Matthews, sold the house to Adelbert and Jennie Norton in 1902. The Nortons lived in the house until their respective deaths in 1928 and 1945. Adelbert "Bert" Norton was employed by the Detroit United Railway for 32 years. He died in his home at 156 North Avenue on September 25, 1928.

This house served as the studio of artist Franklin Harold Hayward (1867-1945) from 1903-1904. Hayward was born in Romeo, Michigan in 1867 and came with his family to Mount Clemens in 1871. After completing high school, he studied at the Chicago Art Institute and later traveled to Paris to study with James McNeil Whistler and other European artists. He established an art school in 1903 and produced more than 100 paintings during his career. He died in Detroit on July 2, 1945.

Advertisement for the art studio of Franklin Harold Hayward. This advertisement is for one of his early studio locations; he later moved his studio to 156 North Avenue, and again to 24 New St., before going to Detroit.



F. HAROLD HAYWARD, ARTIST.

F. Harold Hayward,

.. ARTIST ..

PORTRAIT AND LANDSCAPE PAINTING  
A SPECIALTY.

STUDIO: Cass Avenue, opposite Court House.

Visitors to Mt. Clemens are invited to call and examine my work, where they will find paintings of adjacent scenery, and other objects of interest.

Business men often find it convenient, while here, to sit for a portrait that time does not allow of when at home.

My studio will be open to callers every afternoon from 1 to 5 o'clock.

## 4 *The John Fisher House*

3 HUBBARD ST.  
1913

The large, brick house at 3 Hubbard was completed by John and Elise Fisher in 1913 at a cost of approximately \$10,000. The Fishers had lived in Pittsburgh. Whenever the family went on vacation, they came to Mount Clemens and took the mineral baths. They liked the area so much that they decided to move to Mount Clemens.

By 1924, both John and Elise Fisher had died. Their relatives, the Yenkes, occupied 3 Hubbard with their niece Katherine and her new husband Arthur D. Roese, then secretary of the Bannow Drug Company. Arthur Roese was the son of the Reverend F. A. Roese who had come to Mount Clemens in 1901 as pastor of the Zion Evangelical Church.

In his boyhood, Arthur worked at the Bannow Drug Store, later graduating from the University of Michigan with a degree in civil engineering. From 1924 to 1927, Arthur left the drugstore business and did engineering work for Macomb County, but in the end at the age of 33, he gave in to the need to open his own store, the Roese Drug Company at 53 North Walnut Street. "From drugs to transits and back to drugs," the Nellis Newspaper commented about his career.

The features of the house at the time of construction were impressive. The doors and window frames and woodwork were of oak. The roof was slate. Rising above two bookcases adjacent to a gas fireplace were stained glass windows. Additional stained glass windows were near the ceiling on the south wall of the dining room. A beautiful door with leaded glass graced the front entrance. Although it seems strange today for so fine a house, a chicken coop was built as part of the garage. The backyard also contained a vegetable garden with corn growing in it.

One of the most intriguing characteristics of 3 Hubbard is its closeness to the house next door. At the time the Fishers decided to build, the lot on the corner of Market and Hubbard was not available. According to Katherine and Arthur's son, Arthur F. Roese, the house would have been built more toward Market Street had that lot been available. In addition, he notes, the Fishers, being from Pittsburgh, were used to houses that were very close to each other.

Over the years, the stained glass windows were replaced by casement windows in both the living room and dining room. The bookcases were removed, and the leaded glass front door was strengthened. Needless to say, the chicken coop has disappeared. The garage which was designed for shorter cars had to be lengthened to accommodate newer models. Even these changes did not alter its essential character. The house today remains a fine example of Prairie School architecture in Mount Clemens.

