# OAKLAND



# GAZETTE.

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TOUR OF THE WINKLER MILL



The house tour in Clarkston announced for June has been postponed until fall because of unforeseen circumstances.

On June 23 from 2 - 4 p.m., the historic Winkler Mill in Rochester will be open for a tour hosted by its owners, Mr. & Mrs. Thomas W. Cole, who are completing repair and restoration of the structure.

The Winkler Mill, as was usual in the county, obtained its power from water. Today there is a 40' fall and spillway. Also prominently displayed are two large millstones. Altogether, it promises to be an interesting and enjoyable occasion.

This tour must be restricted to members and in order that we gain an approximate idea of attendance we would appreciate receiving a card or call from those intending to go at 338-6732. We would also recommend comfortable and low-heeled footwear.

Directions: Follow Main Street in Rochester north to Tienken Rd. (by the shopping center). Turn right. Tienken becomes gravel very soon. Follow Tienken and Washington Rd. 2 miles to Winkler Mill Road (beyond the Avon Players).

The Cole's is a yellow house on the left.

Alternate: Take DeQuindre north past 25 Mile Rd. to Carter. Take Carter to Washing-

ton. Turn left and then right onto Winkler Mill Rd.

# SCHOOL AND GROUP VISITS INCREASE

Thus far in 1968 we have seen a substantial increase in the number of school and group tours of "Pine Grove" over the steady rise of previous years. We are particularly pleased to be serving a far greater number of communities including Rochester, Holly, Clarkston, Milford, Union Lake, Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Royal Oak, Troy and Madison Heights.

The challenge of guiding this larger number of visitors could not be met without the volunteer services of our guide staff. This involves many hours and many steps as well as study and interest. This year our unusually capable guides include: Mrs. Ervin Christie and Mrs. Cameron Clark of Pontiac, Mrs. Samuel Deyo of Orchard Lake, Mrs. Douglas Hoard, Mrs. Whitney Prall of Pontiac, Mrs. Edward Ruslander of Franklin, Miss Adah Shelly of Pontiac, Mrs. Robert Smith of Orchard Lake, Mrs. Barbour Williams of Pontiac, Mrs. John Windiate of Union Lake and Mrs. Richard Wright of Bloomfield Hills.

	Group Attendance		1966 - 68			
1966	April 202	<u>May</u> 904	June	September	October	November
1967	301	837	189	23	245	10
1968	558	1175	502	0	0	0

In addition to general tours designed to parallel school study of local or United States history, the slide-tape presentation "Oakland County: the Early Years" has been shown to approximately a dozen classes and special discussions on topics such as The Civil War Soldier which utilize objects in the collection have been requested by five visiting groups. It is hoped to expand such extra services as space and personnel permit.

#### SUMMER HOURS

"Pine Grove" will maintain its usual summer hours, July and August, Sunday through Friday, 2-5~p.m. As in the past members of the Society will compose the visitor reception staff, and those with available time are urged to volunteer their services for one afternoon each week for one or two months. Two people minimum are needed for each day.

# PLANNING TO SEPARATE PERENNIALS?

The Grounds Restoration Committee hopes you will give starts of your perennials for use in restoring the gardens at the Wisner House. The following list contains those plants which are appropriate and needed by the Committee.

Aconitum (Monkshood); Alyssum; Asters; Campanula (Bellflower); Catananche (Blue Cupidone or Love Plant); Chrysanthemum; Columbine; Coreopsis; Cypripedium pubescens (Yellow Lady's Slipper); Delphinium; Dictamnus (Gas Plant or Frazinilla); Echinops (Globe Thistle); Eupatorium (Hardy Ageratum); Gaillardia (Blanket Flowers); Gentania (Soapwort Gentian); Hepaticas; Hibiscus; Hydrangea; Liatris (Blazing Star); or Gayfeather); Linum perrene (flax); Luchnis (Campion or Catchfly); Lythrum (Purple Loosestrife); Lupin; Monarda (Beeblam); Oenothera (Evening primrose); Pentstemon (Beard Tongue); Peony; Phlox; Potentilla (Cinquefoil); Primrose; Ranunculus (Buttercup); Siberian Iris; Sedum; Tradescantia (Spiderwort); Trollius (Globe flower); Verascum (purple Mullein); Verbena; Veronica; Violets.

The plants may be left at the Wisner House or the committee will pick them up. If there are any questions, please call me at 647-1136.

Velva Pinney

# PLANNING COMMITTEE HOLDS MEETING

On June 15 the first meeting of the newly appointed long range planning committee was held at "Pine Grove".

Members of the committee at this time include Richard C. Poole, chairman, Mrs. Donald Adams, Mrs. Robert Anderson, Mrs. Marion Hodges Benter, John P. Harris, and Mrs. Richard Starkey.

Formed to review the total purpose and direction of the Society and its properties, this committee will formulate a proposal for future development. To a large degree this planning will be influenced by the needs and desires of the county as a whole. For example, our museum visitation is primarily by school classes and continues to increase in that direction, while the membership of the Society is adult and without a junior organization. Also to be considered is the large and continued growth of Oakland County.

Among the practical items needing planning are restoration priorities and eventual provision for office, library, conservation and storage space as well as opportunity to interpret the history of the county through formal changing exhibits of the Society's collection.

Such a long range plan will contain provision for review and updating as changing conditions require.

#### RECENT ACCESSIONS

Recent accessions include a transitional Empire-Victorian sofa donated by the heirs of Ward and Della Newman of Pontiac, a large number of Detroit and Pontiac newspapers of the 1860-75 period from Mr. and Mrs. Mark Shattuck of Detroit, items of clothing from Miss Adah Shelly of Pontiac, a set of joiner's tools and box from Mr. Charles Floyd of Waterford, a two-wheeled "jumper" fire hose cart from Cranbrook, and an M. Ward sewing machine from Mr. and Mrs. Joseph N. Wiltsie of Walled Lake.

The Society is particularly seeking objects dealing with crafts and agriculture throughout the 19th century in an effort to record the history of life in Oakland County as an area of farms and farm service communities. In addition to objects, we are interested in pictures, photographs and recollections. We depend upon your help in spreading this information as well as the reminder that such contributions are tax deductible within the limits of the law.

#### NEEDED

A large library table for use in the library and archive area.

An ironing board.

A small refrigerator.

School items: pail and tin dipper, high stool

Someone to cane a seat.

The Garden Committee has begun plantings with shrubs around the schoolhouse and three spruce, gifts of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hefferon of Pontiac, at the point of the front lawn. In addition, beds of appropriate flowers have been started surrounding the kitchen wing. Preface to this has been a large amount of pruning and clearing and leveling of the center of the front lawn point. Still in the initial stages are restoration of the walks, hedge and replanting of the additional spruce and maple trees, much of which is awaiting repairs on the porch.





#### REPORT AND EDITORIAL

The first issue of the "Gazette" carried a report of attempts by the Pontiac City Historical Commission and the Society staff to effect a future for the 1848 Boss-Halfpenny House. In the interim a number of gratifyingly favorable reactions have been received by members. City officials searched the question of sources for funding and found several appropriate programs for such a cooperative venture in moving and restoration. Despite these efforts the lack of time could not be surmounted and an unusually fine portion of our historical and architectural past has been lost.

In addition to expressing our thanks to the City of Pontiac, the City Historical Commission in the person of Marion Hodges Benter, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Halfpenny, and the American Institute of Architects, we would like to stress that this effort may be of ultimate value only if we emerge better prepared to cope with such a situation again. Communities across the nation who realize the importance of useful preservation of what makes the fabric of their town are finding ways of combating the threat of a "rootless society". It is as necessary here in Oakland County as in Georgetown or Salem or Providence.

Throughout Michigan Week and the week following, exhibits relating to "Pine Grove" and the history of Oakland County were placed in the store window at 18-20 Saginaw in Pontiac. The Society would welcome similar opportunities in the future.

# ANNUAL MEETING SEPTEMBER 18

A reminder that the annual meeting will be held on September 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the Supervisor's Auditorium of the Oakland County Service Center on Telegraph Road. After a short business meeting we hope to blend refreshments with booths of collector's gems. Objects which are interesting and about which you can tell a little are needed. Any one willing to participate is requested to call the Society office, Mrs. Richard Wright or Mrs. Robert Anderson.