

awards file

May 5, 2003

To THE ANN ARBOR NEWS
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CITY RECEIVES AWARD FOR STREET EXHIBIT PROGRAM

The City of Ann Arbor has received the **2003 Government/Institution Award** from the Michigan Historic Preservation Network for the *Downtown Ann Arbor Historical Street Exhibit Program*. The award recognizes the city's actions in accomplishing "significant positive changes in the historic preservation climate" and making a significant contribution to the preservation of Michigan's heritage. Heather Edwards, the city's Historic Preservation Coordinator, presented the award to City Council Monday night on behalf of the Historic District Commission, which initiated the program fifteen years ago.

Jointly sponsored by the city, the Downtown Development Authority, the university, the county, and the Ann Arbor News among others, the program is responsible for thirteen tall glass historical markers in the Main Street and Kerrytown business districts. Seven more markers will be installed this summer on State Street and South University. For more information, contact Heather Edwards at 996-3008 or by email at hedwards@ci.ann-arbor.mi.us.

The Michigan Historic Preservation Network is Michigan's only statewide private, non-profit preservation organization. The award was initially presented at a special reception during the Network's annual meeting in Kalamazoo on April 25th, 2003.

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Downtown Ann Arbor Historical Street Exhibit Program

One can hardly walk around downtown Ann Arbor without seeing them: images of the city's past sandwiched in glass. Through uniquely designed transparent frames, photographic images of the past are superimposed on the existing streetscape and viewed as a living part of the present. The first of its kind in the nation, the Downtown Ann Arbor Historical Street Exhibit Program brings the past to life with a collection of 16 exhibits that celebrate the city's culture, history and historic architecture.

Through these exhibits, the City of Ann Arbor recognizes that historic preservation enriches the quality of life. The Street Exhibit Program has inspired significant positive change in our city since the installation of the first exhibit at Courthouse Square in 1999. Residents and visitors, children and adults study the exhibits to gain an appreciation of the city's rich history. As history becomes public art, the exhibits encourage the community to preserve and protect our architectural heritage.

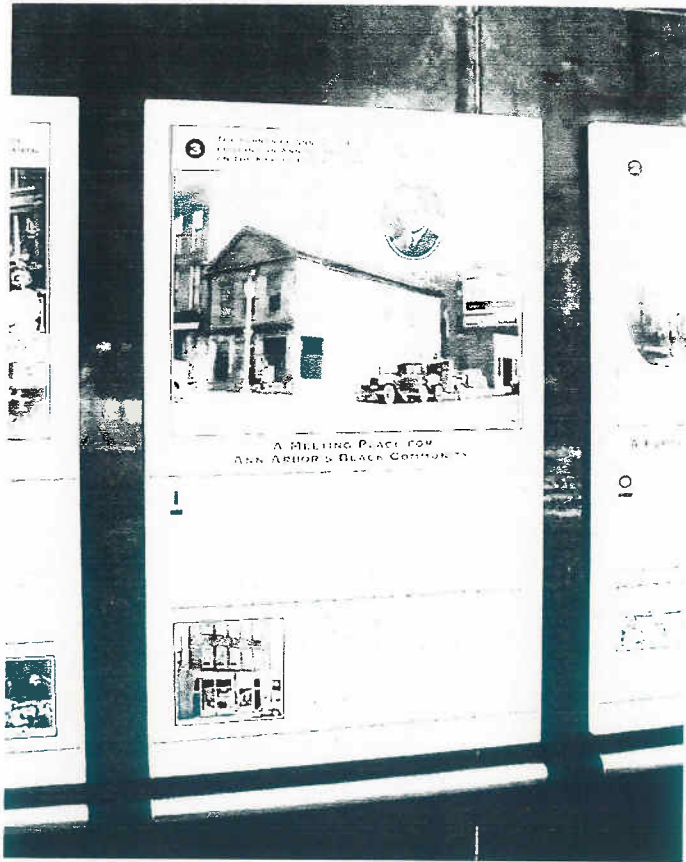
The Downtown Development Authority and Historic District Commission of the City of Ann Arbor initiated the Program fifteen years ago. Sixteen key locations were identified throughout downtown, each focusing on a historic theme appropriate for that site. The primary feature at each location is one or more large transparent frames placed to provide an immediate and dramatic visual comparison between the past and present. Thirteen of these frames are now in place and seven more will be installed in the summer of 2003. Each location has supporting porcelain enamel wall images that elaborate on the theme. Two large pedestals, one at the courthouse and the other near the university, provide a platform for maps and additional images. Bronze replicas of historic artifacts such as posters and handbills further enrich the exhibits and provide an element of surprise and amusement. When completed the exhibits will comprise a walking tour of historic downtown Ann Arbor. The program's outstanding design has generated inquiries from several other cities.

The Program is designed to involve as many members of the community as possible. The University of Michigan and the Ann Arbor News have joined the City as official sponsors. The Ann Arbor Historical Foundation is the program's non-profit fiduciary sponsor. Among the hundreds of contributors, whose support ranges from ten dollars to fifty thousand dollars, major donors include Pfizer Inc, the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation, Tom and Louis Borders, Carl and Isabel Brauer, DTE Energy, First Martin Corporation, the Kennedy Family, MAV Development, O'Neal Construction, the Stegeman Family, TCF Bank, and the Mosaic Foundation of Peter and Rita Heydon. The Michigan Architectural Foundation made possible an eight-minute video describing the program. Many thousands of volunteer hours have been spent researching, writing, editing, raising funds, and planning celebrations. To begin integrating the Program into the public school curriculum, Program volunteers, working with the Ann Arbor Public Schools and the Ann Arbor News, are producing a newspaper supplement as a teaching aid for students in the primary grades.

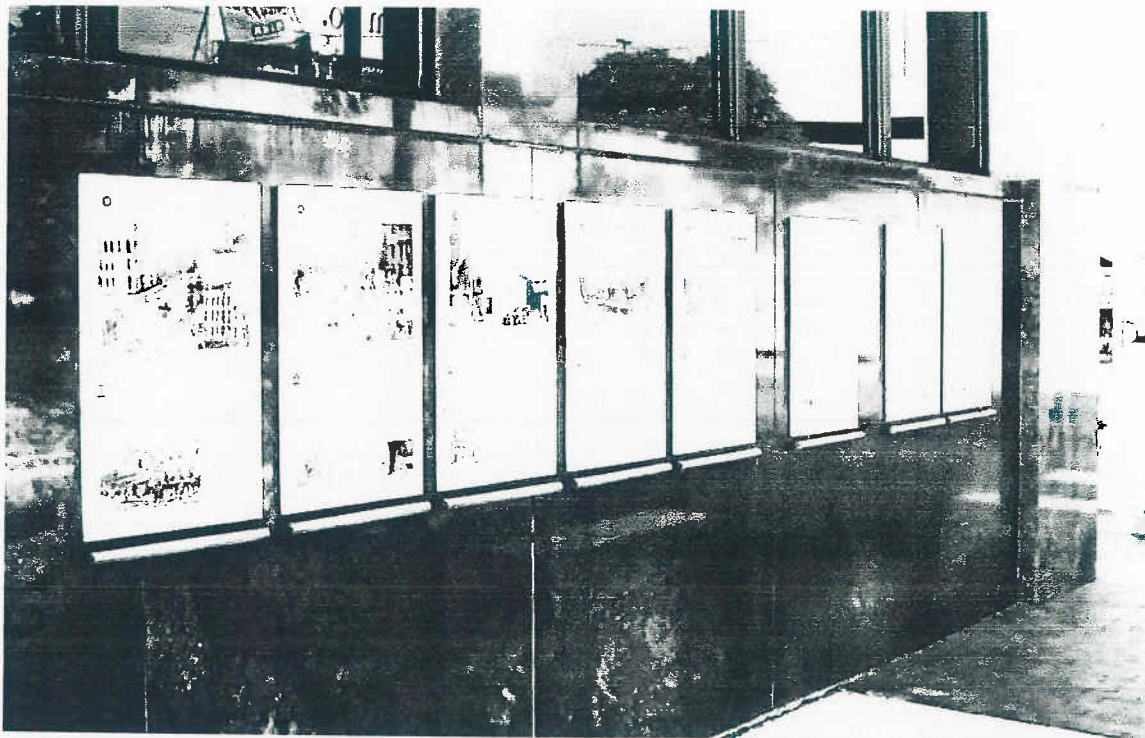


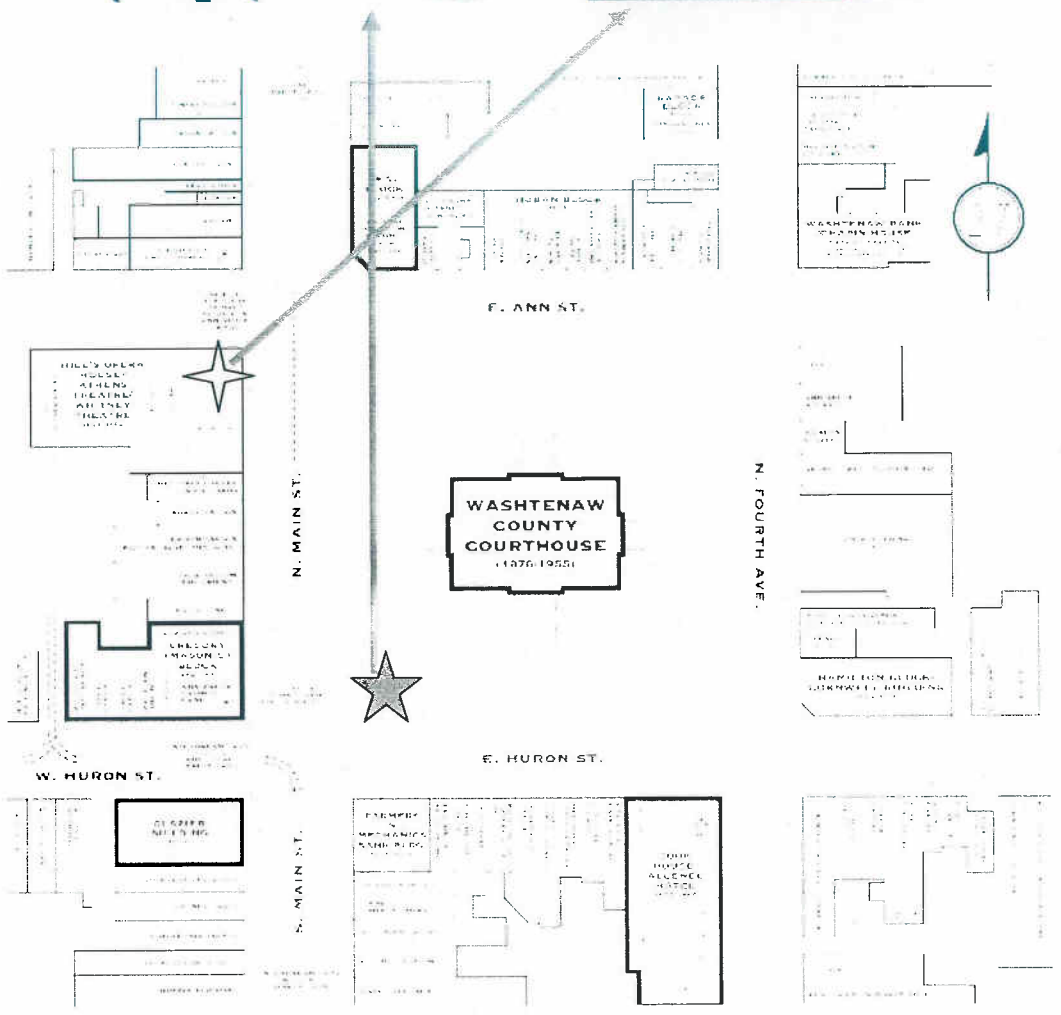
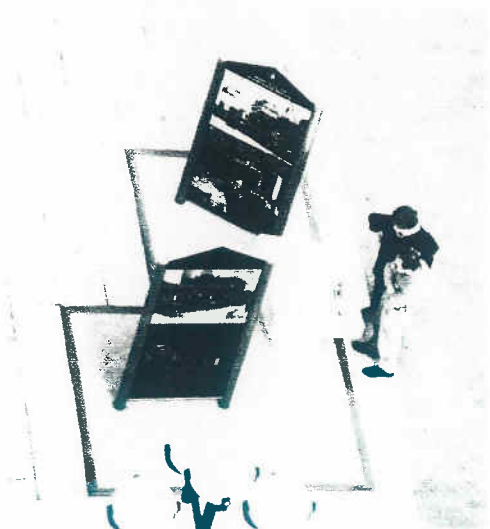
Bronze replicas of historical artifacts are located where they can be discovered as part of the streetscape. Such replicas bring past events to life.





Enameled panels mounted on building walls supplement the historical information found on the glass panels.





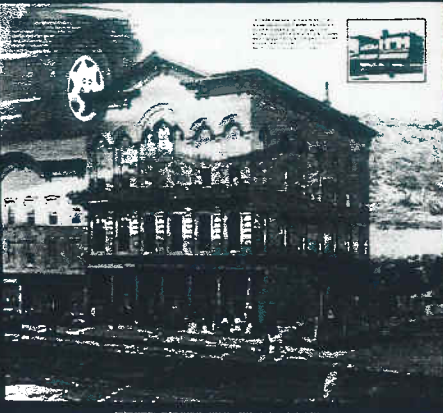


BUSINESS AND BANKING

BANK BLOCK
ca. 1907



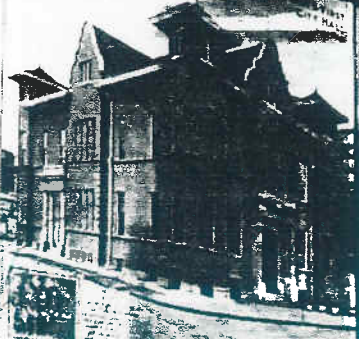
For more information, visit the National Historic Landmark at the corner of...
The building was designed by...
The building was designed by...
The building was designed by...



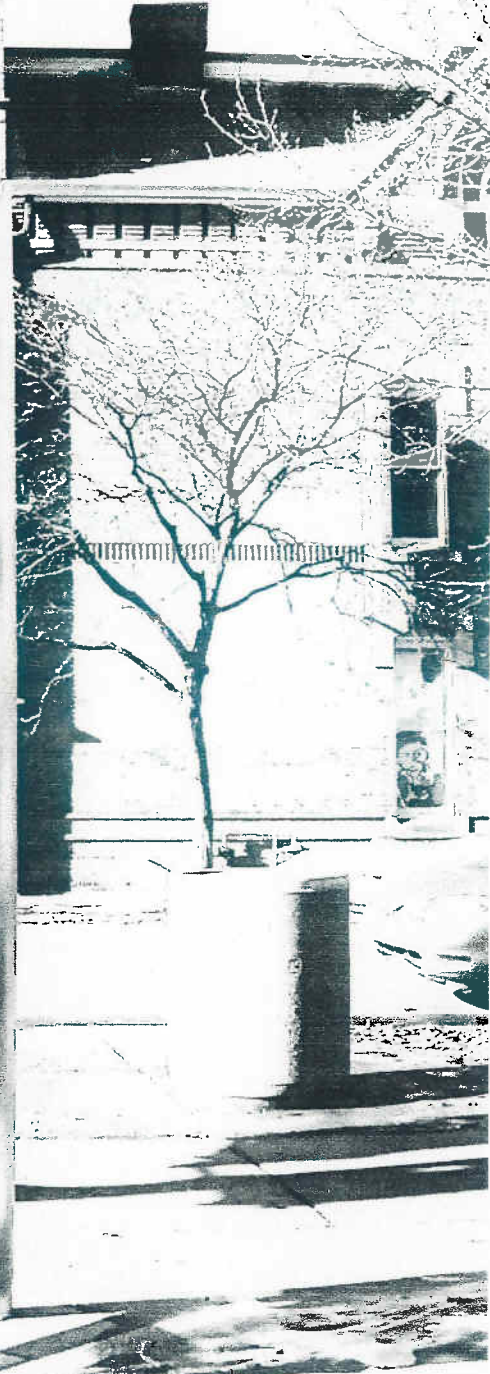
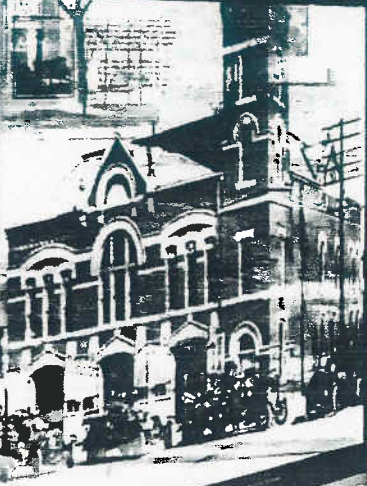
THE BUILDING OF THE BANK BLOCK AND THE BANK BLOCK

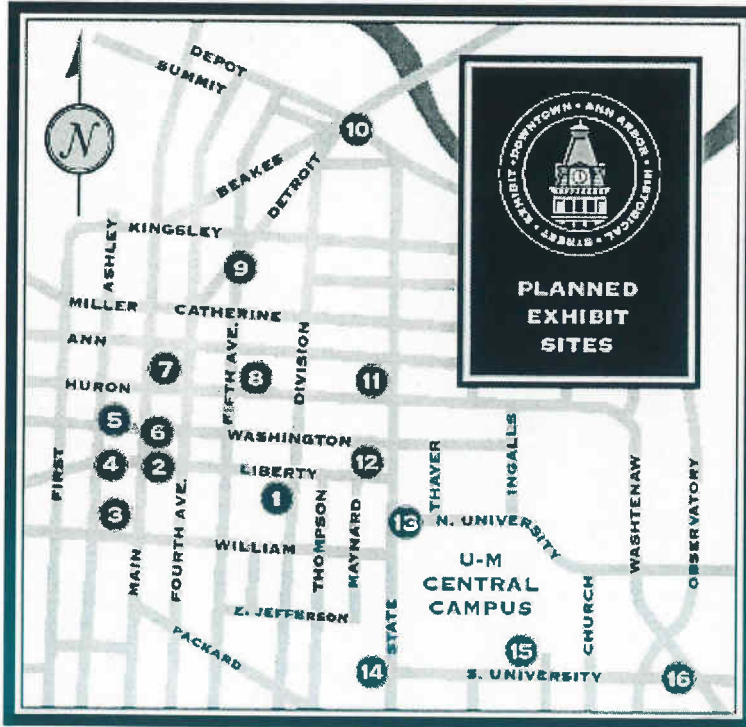


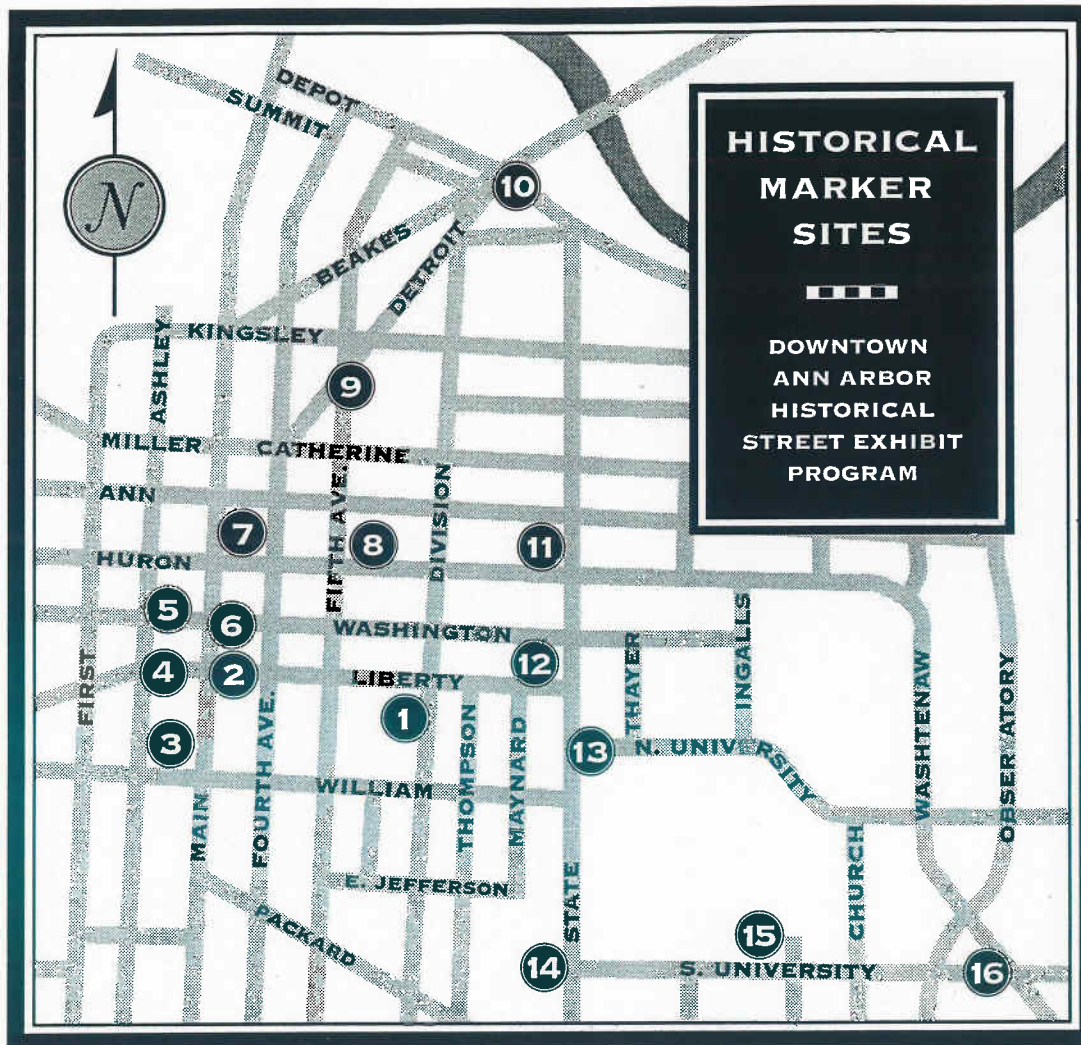
**THE GROWTH OF
CITY SERVICES**



[Faded text block, likely describing the historical building or city services.]







1. EAST LIBERTY & DIVISION:

RESIDENTIAL LIFE OF EARLY SETTLERS AND NEIGHBORHOODS WHERE PROMINENT FAMILIES LIVED.

2. EAST LIBERTY & MAIN:

THE SHOPPING EXPERIENCE THROUGH TIME: DEPARTMENT STORES, CHANGING PRODUCTS, THEATERS.

3. WEST WILLIAM & MAIN:

TRANSPORTATION AND LIGHTING, STREETCARS, THE INTERURBAN, DETROIT EDISON, PARADES.

4. WEST LIBERTY & ASHLEY:

INFLUENCE OF TOPOGRAPHY, INCLUDING ALLEN CREEK, ON PATTERNS OF URBAN GROWTH & CHANGE.

5. WEST WASHINGTON & ASHLEY:

GERMAN IMMIGRANTS' INFLUENCE ON CITY GROWTH AND IDENTITY.

6. EAST WASHINGTON & MAIN:

COMMERCE AND BANKING IN THE EVOLUTION OF MAIN STREET AND THE TOWN.

7. HURON & MAIN:

TOWN LIFE AND THE COURTHOUSE SQUARE (EXHIBIT ALREADY INSTALLED).

8. EAST HURON & NORTH FIFTH:

CITY SERVICES, CITY HALL, FIRE AND POLICE.

9. KERRYTOWN, AT FIFTH & DETROIT, AND DETROIT & CATHERINE:

A SUPPLY, MANUFACTURING, AND SERVICE AREA BETWEEN RIVER, RAILROAD, AND TOWN.

10. TRAIN STATION, DEPOT STREET:

TRANSPORTATION, TOWN AND GOWN.

11. EAST HURON & NORTH STATE:

CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS IN TOWN LIFE.

12. EAST LIBERTY & SOUTH STATE:

ENTERTAINMENT AND CULTURAL CHANGE.

13. NORTH UNIVERSITY & SOUTH STATE:

IMPACT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN UPON LOCAL CULTURE AND COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL GROWTH.

14. SOUTH STATE & SOUTH UNIVERSITY:

DEVELOPMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY AS AN EDUCATIONAL AND PHYSICAL PRESENCE.

15. SOUTH UNIVERSITY & E. UNIVERSITY:

ACADEMIC, SOCIAL, AND POLITICAL SIDE OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN UNIVERSITY AND CITY.

16. SOUTH UNIVERSITY & WASHTENAW:

CHANGING PATTERNS OF RESIDENTIAL LIFE: FRATERNITIES, SORORITIES, COOPERATIVES, APARTMENTS.