

Historic Ypsilanti Michigan

Small Historic Towns across America.

As presented by Mr. Stadt's on-line Freedom Project Education U.S. History classes in the Fall and winter of 2014. You can learn more about our classes by visiting us at: www.fpeusa.org

History

Ypsilanti was originally a trading post that was established in 1809 by Gabriel Godfroy. Godfroy was a French Canadian fur trader from Montreal. The first settlement that would survive was established on the east side of the Huron River in 1823 called the village of Woodruff's Grove. It was established by Major Thomas Woodruff. The city of Ypsilanti was officially established in 1825. It got its name from Demetrius Ypsilanti, a hero in the Greek war of independence. Woodruff's Grove altered its name to Ypsilanti in 1829, and the two communities eventually merged.



Directions

From Detroit Metropolitan Airport: First Head north on John D Dingell Dr toward S Access Dr. Continue onto W G Rogell Dr. Then keep on Merriman Rd. Slightly turn right to merge onto I-94 W toward Chicago. Take exit 183 for Huron St toward Ypsilanti. Turn right onto S Huron St. Keep on Huron St. eventually you will hit the Ypsilanti city hall.

Who was president when the town was founded?

James Monroe was president when Ypsilanti was founded. The presidency of James Monroe was known as the Era of Good Feelings because of the decline of partisan politics and heated speech-making after the war. The Federalist Party collapsed, but without an opponent the Democratic - Republican Party perished as sectional interests came about.



Oldest Business/ Largest Business

The oldest business in Ypsilanti is the nation's oldest ladder company, Michigan Ladder. The Company is



still running to this very day.

. The largest

business/university is Eastern Michigan University. When EMU was first founded it went by the name of



Michigan Normal School.

City Government

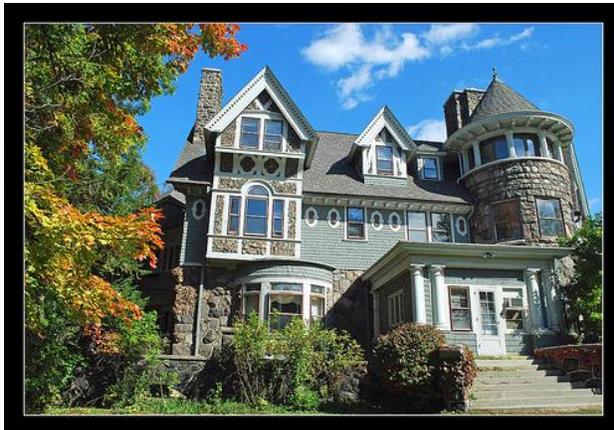
Ypsilanti is governed by the mayor-council form of government.

Historic Attractions/ Festivals and Events

There are countless historic structures and attraction throughout Ypsilanti. Anywhere you are in the city there is probably at least one historic structure in eye sight. The most famous one is probably the old water tower.



It was designed by William R. Coats. The tower was built in 1889 and cost \$21,435.63 to build. Another historic structure is the Hutchinson Mansion.



It is the largest Mansion in Ypsilanti and is now a world famous educational research foundation. The Heritage Festival is a festival in which people from all over the country come to participate. Here you learn about the history of our city and many other things, there are also stations in the festival that sell old fashioned popcorn and root beer and many other kinds of food stations. The festival has over 75 tents that have many different activities.

Where to stay when visiting Ypsilanti

If you choose to visit Ypsilanti it is suggested to stay at the Marriot hotel right of exit 183 on I-94. This gives you access to good eating and all you have to do is cross the bridge over the interstate and you are in Ypsilanti.

Why would I want to visit Ypsilanti

Ypsilanti is one of the oldest towns in Michigan it has some of the most memorable structures in Michigan and it is always fun to explore a town from that played a part in the development of our great country.

Links you may wish to visit

cityofypsilanti.com