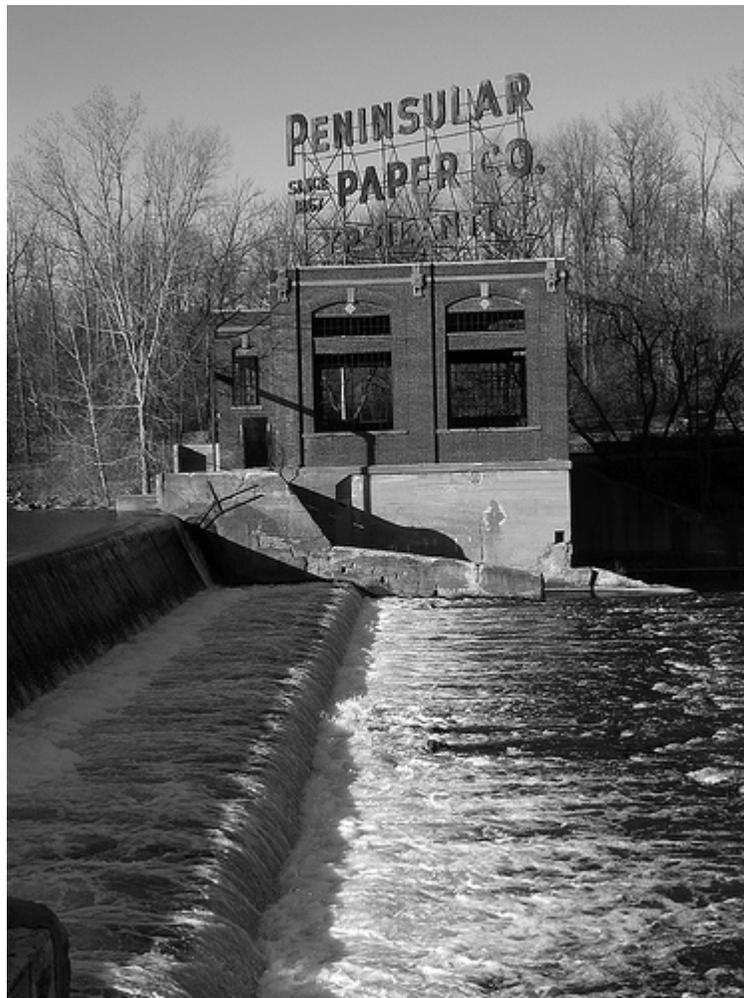


Final Report of the
Historic District Study Committee
for the City of Ypsilanti,
Washtenaw County, Michigan

This Report has been prepared by the Historic District Study Committee
appointed by the City Council, City of Ypsilanti, Michigan, on July 15, 2008,
to study and report on the feasibility of providing legal protection to the
Edison Power Plant, Dam, and Peninsular Paper Company Sign
by creating the three-resource

Edison Power Plant Historic District



Submitted to Ypsilanti City Council December 15, 2009

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Charge of the Study Committee

The Ypsilanti City Council, by resolution on July 15, 2008, appointed a Historic District Study Committee pursuant to the State of Michigan Local Historic Districts Act, 1970 PA 169 (MCL 399.203) and Chapter 54 of the City of Ypsilanti Codes, entitled Historical Preservation.

The subjects of the study were the Edison Power Plant, the dam on the Huron River, and the Peninsular Paper Company sign mounted on the roof of the power plant.

A historic district, the Edison Power Plant Historic District, is proposed.

Composition of the Study Committee

Aimee D'Agostini	Graduate Student, Historic Preservation Program, Eastern Michigan University Ypsilanti Historic District Commission Intern
William Nickels	City Councilperson Ward 2 Former member, Ypsilanti Historic District Commission Board member, Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation Member, Ypsilanti Historical Society
Brenda Rigdon	Registered Architect, LEEP-AP, CDT Member, Ypsilanti Historic District Commission Preservation Architect, JDI Group Architects and Engineers, Toledo
Alvin Rudisill, PhD	President, Ypsilanti Historical Society Retired Professor and Dean, College of Technology, Eastern Michigan University Retired Executive Director, National Association of Industrial Technology
Jane Schmiedeke	Chair, Ypsilanti Historic District Commission Board member, Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation Member, Ypsilanti Historical Society Archives Advisory Board Homeowner, Ypsilanti Historic District
Lisa Walters	Thesis/Dissertation Reader, Graduate School, Eastern Michigan University Former City Councilperson Ward 2 Member, Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation Member, Ypsilanti Historical Society Archives Advisory Board

Verbal Boundary Description (legal property description)

Parcel #: 11-11-05-100-013
Property Address: Leforge Street
Frontage: 1.00 ft
Depth: 0.00 ft
Acreage: 5.00
Zoning Code: PL (public land)

YPC 1W-386A (011) LAND COM AT A POINT 1337.84 S OF THE NE CORNER, SEC 5, TO APOB, TH W 223 FT, TH N 50 FT, TH W 117.56 FT, TH N 226.97 FT, TH W 1056 FT TO THE LEFT BANK OF THE HURON RIVER, THEN E'LY ALG THE LEFT BANK OF THE HURON RIVER TO THE E LN OF SEC 5, TH N 260 FT MORE OR LESS TO POB. T3S R7E.

(Source of information: City of Ypsilanti, Assessment & Taxes)

Visual Boundary Description (maps)

Washtenaw County GIS aerial view of Peninsular Park, location of Edison Power Plant, showing power plant, dam, parking area, park pavilion, & dock

City of Ypsilanti zoning map showing Peninsular Park

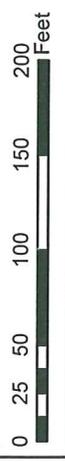
City of Ypsilanti Image/Sketch for Parcel: 11-11-05-100-013

Sanborn Insurance map, 1916

Sanborn Insurance map, 1927

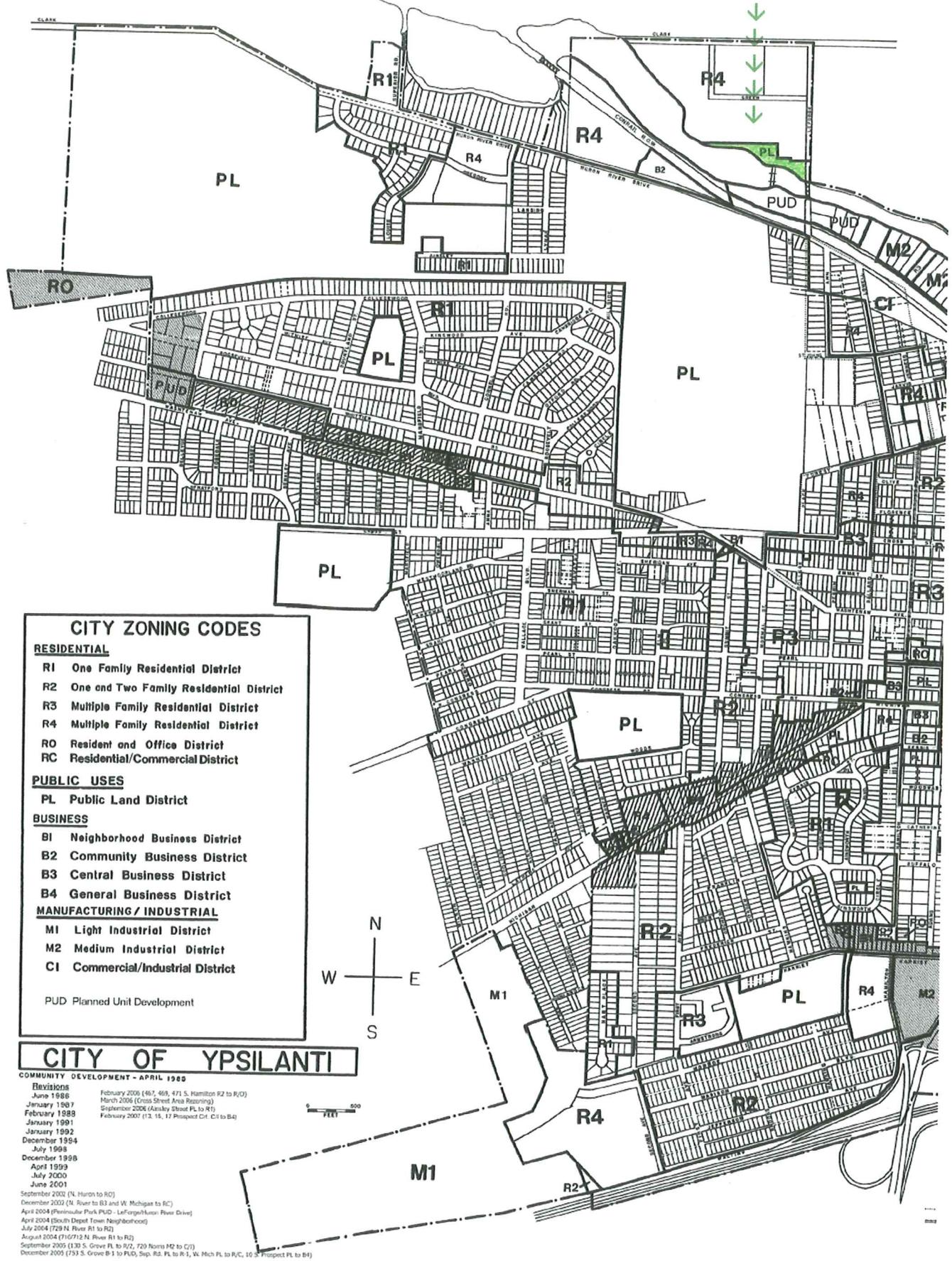


Data from Washtenaw County GIS.
1 inch equals 100 feet
2005 Aerial Photo



Park pavilion & dock ↗
Parking area ↗
Edison Power Plant →
Dam →

Peninsular Park, location of
EDISON POWER PLANT



CITY ZONING CODES

RESIDENTIAL

- R1 One Family Residential District
- R2 One and Two Family Residential District
- R3 Multiple Family Residential District
- R4 Multiple Family Residential District
- RO Resident and Office District
- RC Residential/Commercial District

PUBLIC USES

- PL Public Land District

BUSINESS

- B1 Neighborhood Business District
- B2 Community Business District
- B3 Central Business District
- B4 General Business District

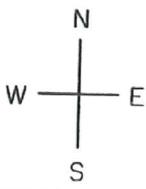
MANUFACTURING/ INDUSTRIAL

- M1 Light Industrial District
- M2 Medium Industrial District
- C1 Commercial/Industrial District

PUD Planned Unit Development

CITY OF YPSILANTI

- COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - APRIL 1980
- Revisions**
- June 1988 February 2006 (467, 469, 471 S. Hamilton R2 to R1D)
 - January 1987 March 2006 (Cross Street Area Rezoning)
 - February 1988 September 2006 (Ashley Street PL to R1)
 - January 1991 February 2007 (13, 15, 17 Prospect Cir. C1 to B4)
 - January 1992
 - December 1994
 - July 1998
 - December 1998
 - April 1999
 - July 2000
 - June 2001
 - September 2002 (N. Huron to RC)
 - December 2002 (N. River to B3 and W. Michigan to RC)
 - April 2004 (Peninsular Park PUD - LeForge/Huron River Drive)
 - April 2004 (South Depot Towne Neighborhood)
 - July 2004 (729 N. River R1 to R2)
 - August 2004 (710712 N. River R1 to R2)
 - September 2005 (130 S. Grove PL to R1Z, 729 North R2 to C2)
 - December 2005 (153 S. Grove B-1 to PUD, Sep. Rd. PL to R-1, W. Mich PL to R/C, 10-31 Prospect PL to B4)





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Change Unit | Create an Account | Add to Favorites

Main > Assessing > Property and Land Search > Results > Details > Image/Sketch

Additional Pages
General/Sales
Buildings
Images/Sketches

Image/Sketch for Parcel: 11-11-05-100-013
Caption: .jpg

Printer friendly version

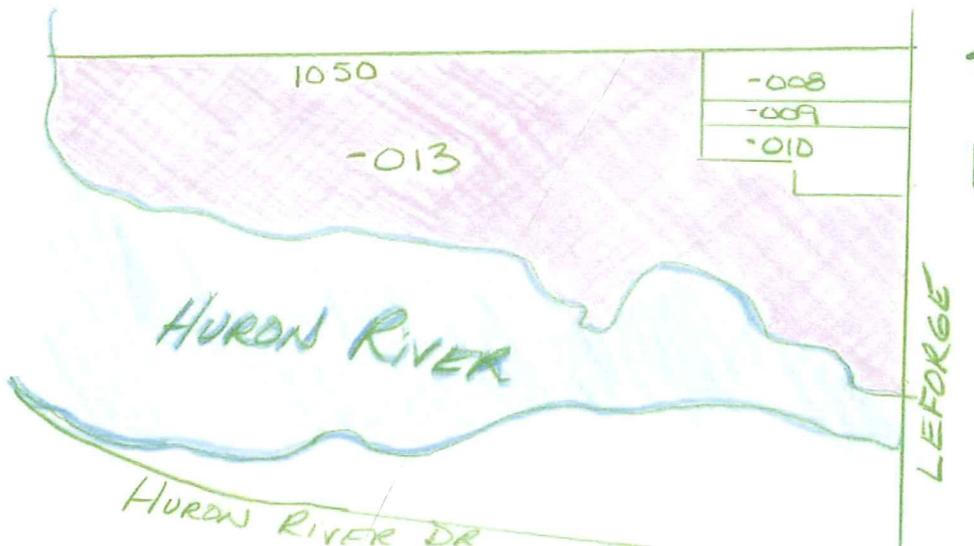
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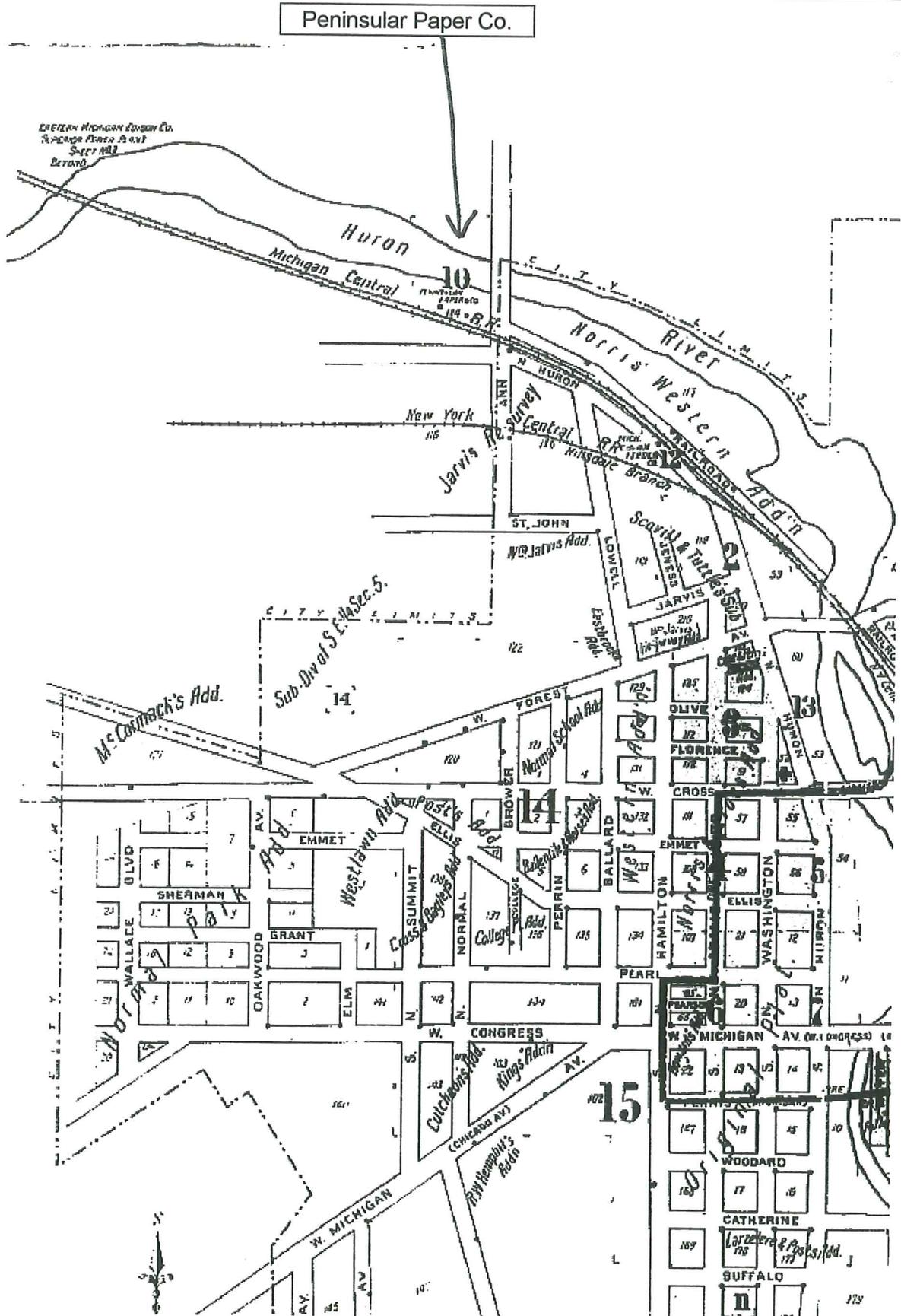
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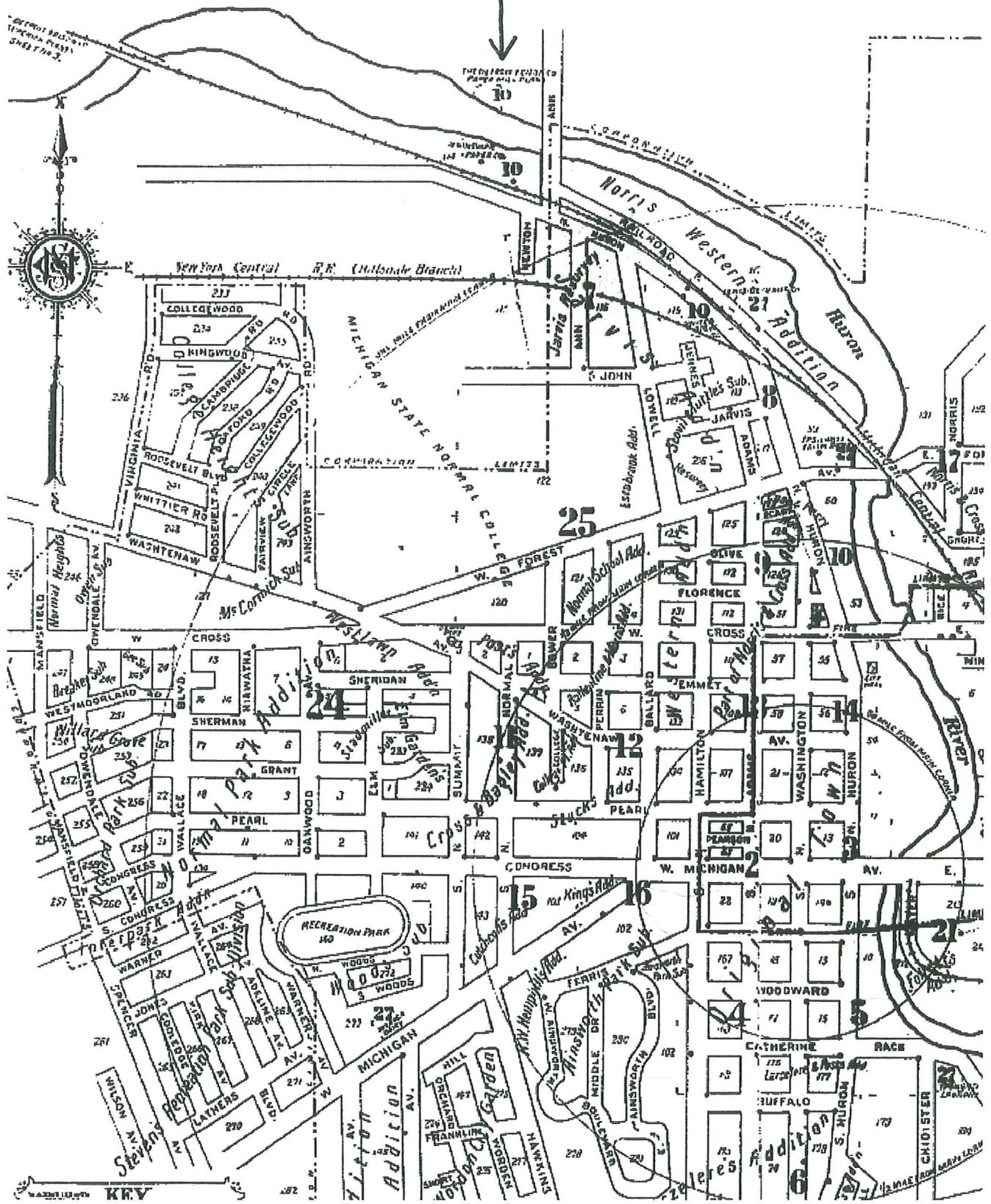


Sanborn, 1916



Sanborn, 1927

The Detroit Edison Co.
Paper Mill Plant



Proposed Boundary Description, Justification, & Context Photos

The Edison Power Plant is a remnant of a larger industrial complex, the Peninsular Paper Company, once consisting of two mills, one on either bank of the Huron River. An early photo of the Peninsular Paper Plant and the Edison Power Plant shows a footbridge, crossing the Huron River immediately downriver of the dam, which would have linked the two mills.

Sanborn Insurance maps that show the locations of the Peninsular Paper Company, the Edison Power Plant, and the dam on the Huron River identify these important elements of the city's early industrial development.

Although owned by separate entities, the paper mill and the power plant were intimately linked. The paper mill, although originally powered by water rushing over the dam, later depended on the electrical power provided by the Edison Plant, and the Edison Plant existed to serve the paper mill as well as the City of Ypsilanti, the growth of which had long been spurred by the jobs and money brought to the area by the paper mill.

Eventually, the paper company owned the power plant and the surrounding site outright. Thus, it is difficult to separate the historic landscape of one site from the other, particularly as the power plant is considered a symbol of the lost paper mill.

Justification

The Edison Power Plant is now within the boundaries of Peninsular Park, the land acquired in 1986 by the City of Ypsilanti from the James River Corporation (a successor to Peninsular Paper). The current boundaries of Peninsular Park are based on the last boundaries of the property owned by Peninsular Paper and its successors on the north bank of the Huron River. Unlike the Peninsular property south of the river, the northern site remains substantially as it was when the power plant was constructed in 1916.

Thus, these boundaries, extended to include the dam itself, seem a logical choice for defining the meaningful context of the Edison Power Plant.

The proposed district will therefore include three contributing resources: the power plant, the dam, and the Peninsular Paper Company sign. Also on the site is a non-contributing park pavilion.



Looking northwest. www.waymarking.com.



Looking southwest – Power House at the right. www.waymarking.com.



Looking south – Power House at the left. www.waymarking.com.



Looking southwest – dam and Power House at the left. www.waymarking.com.

Criteria for Evaluating Resources for Inclusion in Local Historic Districts

A historic district study committee is guided by Michigan's Local Historic Districts Act, 1970 PA 169 and by the selection criteria for evaluation issued by the United States Secretary of the Interior for inclusion of resources in the National Register of Historic Places, as follows:

MICHIGAN'S LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICTS ACT, 1970 PA 169

Section 3(1) of Michigan's Local Historic Districts Act, 1970 PA 169 (MCL 399.203) states that counties, cities, villages and townships may, by ordinance, establish one or more local historic districts. The section further states that before a district is created, the legislative body of the local unit of government must appoint a historic district study committee. The section says that in evaluating the significance of historic resources to be included in districts, a committee shall be guided by the selection criteria for evaluation issued by the United States Secretary of the Interior for inclusion of resources in the National Register of Historic Places, as set forth in 36 C.F.R. part 60, and criteria established or approved by the department (of history, arts and libraries), if any.

Further, Section 1a(1) of the *Local Historic Districts Act* (MCL 399.201a) indicates that the term "historic districts" means:

An area, or group of areas not necessarily having contiguous boundaries, that contains one resource or a group of resources that are related by history, architecture, archaeology, engineering or culture.

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

The United States Secretary of the Interior promulgated a definition of the word "district" at 36 C.F.R. § 60.3, as follows:

A district is a geographically definable area, urban or rural, possessing a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites, buildings, structures, or objects united by past events or aesthetically by plan or physical development. A district may also comprise individual elements separated geographically but linked by association or history.

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association and:

- A. That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. That are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- C. That embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic

values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or

- D. That have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

This report has based its findings on the Secretary of the Interior, 36 C.F.R. § 60.3
and
National Register Criteria A and C

Statement of Significance

The Edison Power Plant is significant under National Register Criterion A for its importance in the industrial development of Ypsilanti and Criterion C as a representative example of the Brick Commercial style of architecture of the early 20th Century.

The Peninsular Paper Company sign on the roof of the Power Plant is significant as an object under the United States Secretary of the Interior definition of the word “district” at 36 C.F.R. § 60.3, because it is linked to the Edison Power Plant by past events, physical development, association, and history.

History of the Edison Power Plant

Early History

With the arrival of the first settlers to the area that would later become the City of Ypsilanti, the opportunities afforded by the waterpower of the Huron River were both obvious and recognized. The Huron River provided waterpower sites at almost every mile of its course throughout Washtenaw County, which led to the development of many saw and grist mills along the river. Consequently, these were among the first industries in Ypsilanti. The organization of the Huron Flouring Mill and the City Mill in the pioneer period, the Cornwell Paper Mills in 1855, the Peninsular Paper Company in 1867, and the Ypsilanti Paper Company’s Mills in 1874, all along the Huron River, contributed to the status of Ypsilanti as a manufacturing city.

In 1867, A.L. Barnes, I.N. Conklin, J.W. Van Cleve, and Daniel Lace Quirk incorporated the Peninsular Paper Company. Daniel Lace Quirk was a prominent businessman and citizen of Ypsilanti, who held stock in the Peninsular Paper Company from the time of its inception. In addition to this venture, Quirk was one of the organizing founders and president of the First National Bank of Ypsilanti as well as an organizing founder of the Ypsilanti Woolen Manufacturing Company.

The company’s first mill was constructed in the spring of 1867 with the first paper produced in 1868. A dam was also constructed at this time. Originally, the company produced paper for the Chicago Tribune. The newspaper was concerned about potential fires destroying the original mill

on the south bank of the Huron River and leaving them without newsprint. To meet the demands and concerns of the Chicago Tribune, a second plant was constructed on the opposite side of the river. In each mill, three turbine waterwheels powered the production of paper.

In 1887, Daniel Lace Quirk became president of the company. The second mill on the north side of the river burned down in 1897, survived only by the wooden power plant, the predecessor to the current structure and as seen in early photographs. Charles E. King succeeded Quirk as Peninsular Paper Company president in 1911. Two years later, King died and was succeeded by Quirk's son, Daniel Lace Quirk Jr. who had been employed as the secretary and general manager of the company since 1901.

In 1903, the Detroit Edison Company was incorporated. Like Ypsilanti's pioneer settlers, the Edison Company was also interested in developing the Huron River as a power source, particularly after the purchase of an electrical power plant from the Washtenaw Light & Power Company in 1905. This spurred the purchase of two other small milling sites from the Michigan Milling Company and the Ann Arbor Agriculture Works that same year. The agent for these purchases was engineer Gardner Stewart Williams, a friend of the Edison Company president Alexander Dow. Williams was a prolific and innovative engineer who was one of the first designers of the multiple arch dam in the United States. He experimented with hydraulics, dam design, and water treatment. He also invented the Hazen-Williams hydraulic tables.

In 1906, Detroit Edison formed a wholly owned subsidiary, Eastern Michigan Edison Company, and transferred all its Huron River companies to it as subsidiaries. The rights to four more small mills were acquired in 1907. By 1910, however, the Eastern Michigan Edison Company was no longer a named entity but part of the Detroit Edison Company, who now owned most of the prospective flowage rights necessary for the development of the Huron River and the adjacent land.

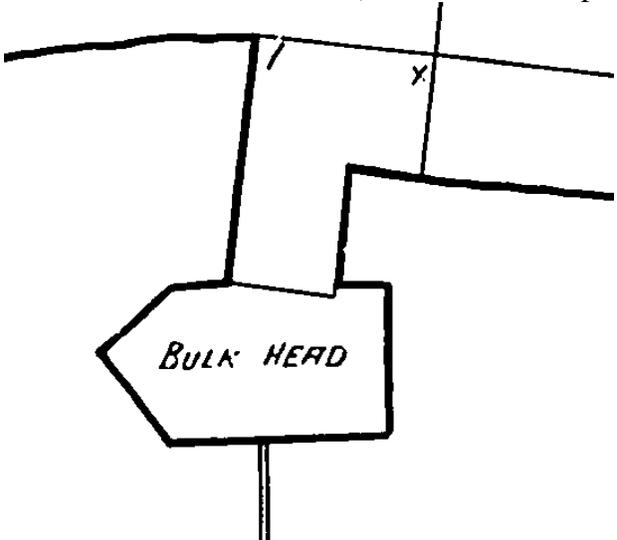
With the majority of the flowage rights acquired, in 1912 Williams presented a feasibility study entitled "Preliminary Report of the Proposed Development of the Huron River Water Powers" to the Detroit Edison Company. His report was premised upon Alexander Dow's plan to create communities from manmade lakes lit by electricity from hydroelectric dams and power plants along the Huron River. Dow felt that the demand for suburban living would increase, as automobiles became more popular and enabled commuting from the suburbs to Detroit. At this time, Williams was given the go-ahead to purchase the necessary lands to realize Dow's plan.

In Williams' report, he determined the optimum sites for the hydroplants, identifying nine potential power plants along the Huron River between Dexter and Belleville. To the north and south of the Peninsular Paper Company mills on the Huron River, the construction of two dams and power plants was proposed. These were called the Superior Dam and the Ypsilanti Dam. The preliminary report stated that water development rights would have to be purchased from the Peninsular Paper Company to achieve the most hydroelectric power at these two proposed sites. Most likely, some time between Williams' 1912 preliminary report and the 1919 construction of the Superior Dam, the Edison Company acquired the Peninsular Paper Company water rights and possibly the land on the north bank of the river. Although the northern Superior Dam was constructed in 1919, plans for the southern Ypsilanti Dam never came to fruition.

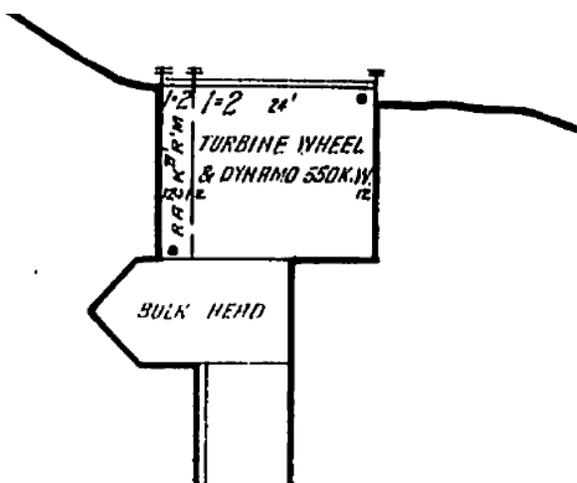
Of the nine dams, six were built, including Barton Dam (1912), Argo Dam (1913), Geddes Dam (1916), Superior Dam (1919), French Landing Dam (1925), and Rawsonville Dam (1927).

The Edison Power Plant was built in 1916. Its purpose was to produce water power from the existing dam in order to supplement the electric and steam power already used by the Peninsular

Paper Company mills. The power house's date of construction is based on two pieces of evidence: the 1916 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map and a photograph taken in 1916. The Sanborn map shows the same building floor plan and dimensions as exist today; a different building configuration is shown on the 1909 Sanborn map, which corresponds to photographs of the earlier wooden power house. The 1916 photograph, titled "Peninsular Paper Company in 1916 (looking south across the Huron River)" shows the completed Power Plant on the north side of the Huron.



1909 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map



1916 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map



1916 photograph of the Peninsular Paper Company. Note the Edison Power Plant at the right of the photograph

On March 4, 1918, a storm washed out the dam, which had been replaced in 1914. Photographs show the Edison Power Plant on the north side of the river overlooking the remains of the dam. The plans for replacing the dam were drawn up by Gardner Stewart Williams and construction work on the dam began in the summer of 1918. Benjamin Douglas Construction of Ann Arbor was awarded the contract for the reconstruction of the dam. Photographs from the Gardner Stewart Williams collection at the Bentley Library in Ann Arbor, Michigan show the reconstruction of the dam with the brick powerhouse in the background.

The Peninsular Paper Company sign atop the power house was installed some time between 1918 and 1935 as it does not appear in photographs from 1918 or subsequent photographs prior to 1935.

Recent History of the Edison Power Plant

In 1967, the Peninsular Paper Company celebrated 100 years of operation in Ypsilanti. It was the city's oldest continuous industry. The Peninsular Paper Company sign on the roof of the Edison Power Plant still reminds us of that history.

According to a 2001 Dam Inspection Report by Ayres, Lewis, Norris & May, Inc., "power production from the facility was abandoned in 1970. At the time of decommissioning activities, all generators and related electrical equipment were removed. Other decommissioning activities included closure of the head gates, and filling of the vertical turbine pits with earth to prevent passage of water through the structure."

In 1974, the Peninsular Paper Company was sold to the James River Corporation of Richmond, Virginia.

The January 25, 1983 issue of the Ypsilanti Press indicated that the Ypsilanti City Council was interested in looking into the feasibility of getting into the hydro-power business through the use of the Peninsular Dam. The Council voted unanimously to support in principle acquiring the dam and nine acres of adjacent park land that the paper company had proposed donating to the city. The consulting firm of Ayres, Lewis, Norris & May, Inc. advised the Council that installing a turbine generator and power station that could feed electricity into Detroit Edison's lines would cost approximately \$570,000.

The Council resolution at the time gave the city administration the authority to inspect more closely the possibility of installing the equipment. However, the consulting firm indicated that the power house adjacent to the dam would have to be demolished and rebuilt. This drew strong objections from Mayor Pro Tem Thomas Dodd who was against destroying the power house, which supported a large sign advertising the Peninsular Paper Company. Dodd indicated the power house structure "...is a good example of classical revival architecture and was a city landmark."

Finally, after years of discussion, the City approved the purchase of the property. At the City Council meeting on August 25, 1986, "...The \$1 acquisition from the James River Corporation includes 6.2 acres on the north side of the Huron River, west of LeForge Road, and an abandoned dam and power station. James River, the Richmond, VA-based firm that owns Peninsular Paper, offered the property as a gesture to the community... The city and James River first discussed the donation of the land six years ago and the corporation approved the deal a year ago" (Ypsilanti Press – August 27, 1986).

Thus, in 1986, the City acquired the Edison Power Plant and 6.2 acres of land from the James River Corporation for \$1. That land became Peninsular Park.

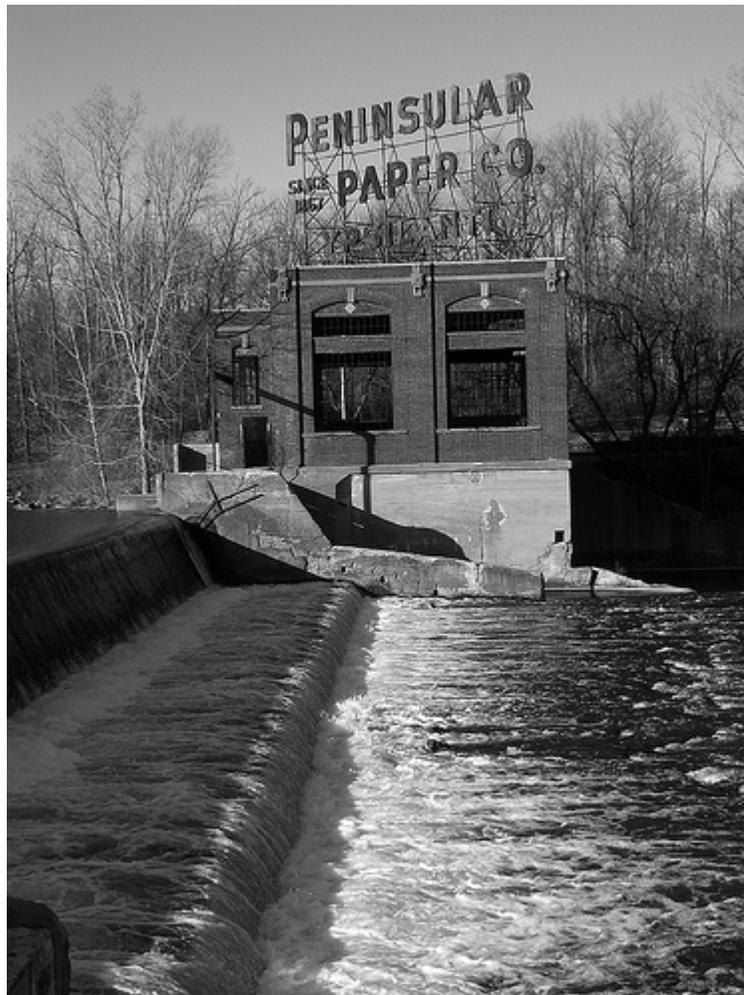
In 1989, the City requested funding from the state to have an “interpretive museum” inside the power house related to hydro-electric activities. However, the funding did not materialize. City Manager Matt Hennessee indicated that “...We still want to do it and the city may want in the future to generate power (from the dam) with Detroit Edison” (Ypsilanti Press – March 15, 1989).

In June of 2004, the Peninsular Paper Mill buildings on the south side of the Huron River were demolished to make way for two large U-shaped residential buildings called Peninsular Place. The old paper mill smokestack was preserved as part of the new housing complex.

Architectural Description of the Edison Power House

The architectural style of buildings such as the Edison Power Plant is identified by the State Historic Preservation Office as "Commercial Brick," a term used to describe early 20th century buildings whose brick work detailing includes patterns, such as herringbone, and bands of brick used to outline openings and to form panels.

This description applies to the Edison Power Plant as this photograph shows:



Exterior

The Edison Power Plant reflects an earlier generation's view of industrial/commercial architecture as an expression of civic pride known as the City Beautiful Movement, a nationwide movement that flourished during the 1890s and early 1900s. As commercial interests more rapidly shaped the urban landscape in the form of railroad yards, warehouses, industrial structures, department stores, and skyscrapers, expressions of civic and cultural life were seemingly overshadowed.

As a way to resolve the tensions between commerce and culture, historic architectural styles were applied to both civic and industrial buildings to “restore the dominance of civic buildings and landscapes in the face of commercial monumentality” (Bluestone 245). Many parks, libraries, museums, and government buildings constructed during this time period recalled classical forms of the past and were favored by proponents of the City Beautiful Movement. This classical revival or Beaux Arts style was first most completely realized at Chicago's World Columbian Exposition in 1893 and soon disseminated to big cities and small towns alike across the country.

In Ypsilanti, efforts to beautify the city were seen in the creation of several parks, the construction of civic buildings, and even in residential architecture. Prospect Park, once a rundown and unused cemetery, was transformed into a park over a period of two years (1892-1894) by the Park Improvement Society who raised money to install walkways, trees, and a crescent-shaped pond before they turned the park over to the city in 1894.

In 1915, a year before the construction of the Edison Power Plant, the Ypsilanti Post Office was built on Michigan Avenue in downtown Ypsilanti in the Beaux Arts style. Its massing, materials, and decorative details are reminiscent of the Edison Power Plant building

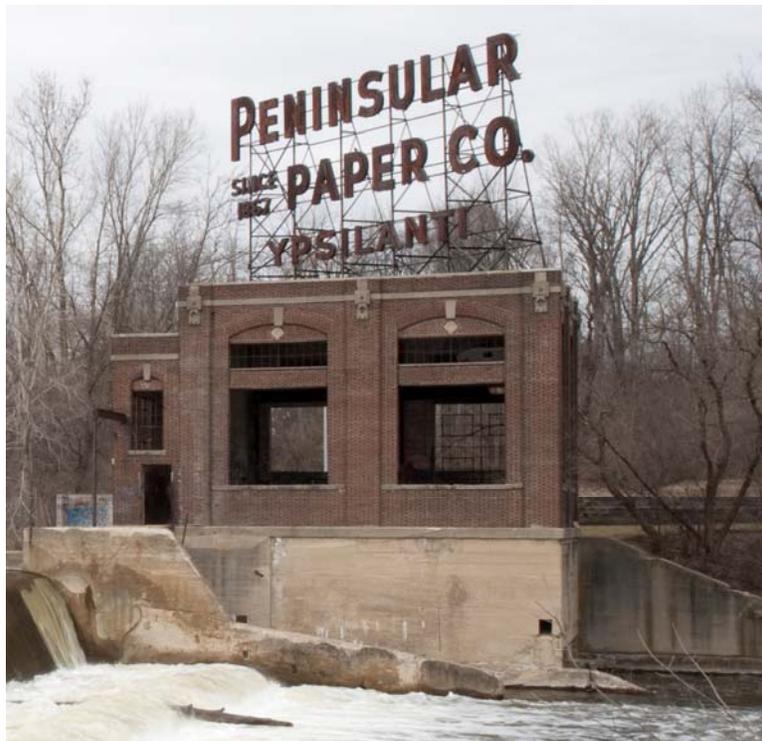
Although the Edison Power Plant is an industrial building, the architectural style is closer to the historically-based styles found in the late Victorian era than to the new Industrial Style in widespread use when the Power Plant was built in 1916. The Edison Power Plant features brick bearing walls, arches, and commercial-style ornamentation, features common in Ypsilanti's Depot Town and along Michigan Avenue.

In contrast, production facilities for Ford Motor Company and other manufacturers in southeast Michigan at the time used exposed reinforced concrete frames and brick/glass infill, with minimal or no ornamentation. The Edison Power Plant is a more elegant, decorative building than it needed to be, given its function as simple housing for generator equipment. One explanation for this is found with the owner: Edison, a public utility, took care that all of its buildings would project a responsible image to the communities they served.

The Edison Power Plant was constructed with a reinforced cast-in-place concrete foundation, load-bearing brick walls, and a cast-in-place reinforced concrete roof deck on steel joists. The structure has a two-by-two high bay configuration, with thickened pilasters defining the structural bays.



West Elevation



South Elevation



East Elevation



North Elevation

The visible portion of the foundation, which ties into the decommissioned hydro-electric dam below grade, appears sound, without large settlement cracks or spalling.

The solid brick walls are 16” deep at the window openings. The exterior brick is hard-fired and deep red in color. The interior brick appears to be a softer, common brick. The brick facades do show numerous “step cracks,” suggesting settlement. The cracks do not appear to reflect major structural damage, however.



Close up of mortar joints

The exterior brick and mortar are generally in good condition, although the building appears to have been tuckpointed in the past. The mortar joints are over-filled and sloppy, while the design of the building suggests that the original brick would have been more carefully laid.



Steel window sash

Within each structural bay, a large window opening spans the width of the bay. The concrete sill of the opening is approximately 7’ above the ground, and the opening is approximately 8’ high. This would place the window well above the interior floor. The window size and placement was designed to provide maximum daylight to the interior.

The window sash are T-profile steel sash and include both fixed and awning units. The steel is rusted, and some members are damaged. Further investigation is required to determine the feasibility of restoring the sash. The window panes are approximately 12" x 16". Based on historic photos and observation, it appears that the glazing is original.



Detail on north elevation

Above the main window opening, the brick creates an elliptical arched opening for a clearstory window of fixed steel sash. The space between the top of the window and the underside of the arch is filled with decorative brickwork and a concrete accent. The keystone of the arch is also concrete. Above the arch, and running along the top of the entire building, is a concrete band approximately three brick courses high. Concrete ornaments accent the intersection of the band and the pilasters.



Concrete ornament at pilasters

The doors to the inside of the building have been blocked off with concrete masonry units, and thus the interior of the power plant was not accessible for inspection. As visible from the exterior, the interior walls of the plant are currently bare brick, although a white haze suggests a paint finish.

Reportedly, all of the equipment was removed from the plant when it was decommissioned. A crane, however, remains in place. The way in which the crane was used within the power plant has not been determined.



Crane attached to ceiling

The ceiling is plastered and shows extensive spalling. The ceiling/roof shows extensive water damage, including large holes through which the sky is visible. The roof deck would need complete replacement, but the steel joists appear to be in good condition.



Ceiling with exposed steel reinforcement and loss of finish plaster

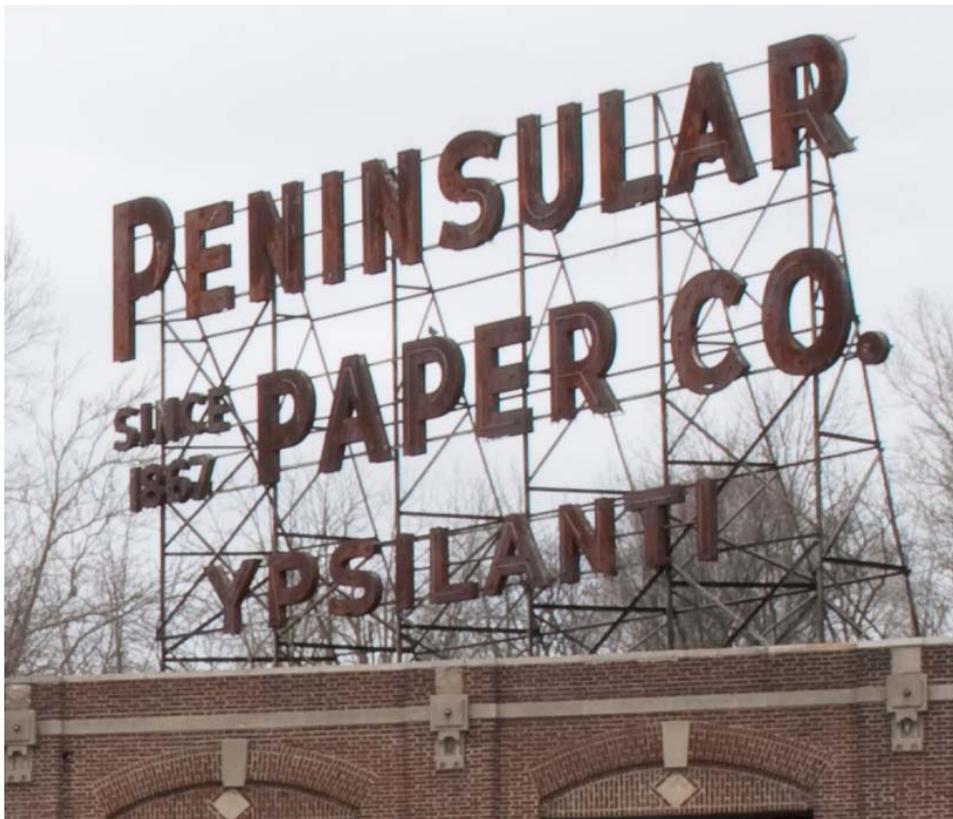
Peninsular Paper Company Sign

Perhaps the most prominent feature of the building is the very large steel sign on the roof, reading “Peninsular Paper Co. Ypsilanti 1867.” The sign is highly visible to travelers across the river on Huron River Drive, and it is considered a local landmark by all, including canoeists and hikers.

The date of the sign’s installation is unknown. Photos in James Mann's "Ypsilanti In The 20th Century" depict the flood of March 14, 1918. One view, which shows the dam totally washed out with the Edison Power Plant in the background, shows no sign on top of the power house at that time. The next available photograph is from 1935, which does show the sign in its current location. Consequently, the sign was installed some time between 1918 and 1935.

From the ground, the steel letters and frame of the sign appear heavily covered in surface rust. Further examination is required to determine the condition of the material and feasibility of restoration. The typestyle of the letters is a modern sans-serif font.

It was illuminated in red neon.



Peninsular Paper Company sign above the Edison Power Plant

Conclusion

It is the finding of this Study Committee, as documented in the preceding report, that the historical and architectural significance of the Edison Power Plant and Dam justifies a conclusion that the resources are worthy of preservation under National Register Criteria A and C.

Further, that the historical significance of the Peninsular Paper Company Sign justifies a conclusion that the resource is worthy of preservation under criteria of the Secretary of the Interior, 36 C.F.R. § 60.3.

Recommendation

Therefore, the Study Committee has concluded that legal protection of the Edison Power Plant and the Peninsular Paper Company sign mounted on its roof is feasible and desirable and recommends that the property, with legal boundaries as described in this report, be designated as the Edison Power Plant Historic District, to be subject to the provisions of the existing Chapter 54 of the City of Ypsilanti Codes, entitled Historical Preservation.

Comments

State Historic Preservation Officer Brian D. Conway p. 25

Ypsilanti Planning Commission, November 19, 2009 - NO COMMENT

Edison Power Plant Historic District Study Committee Public Hearing, July 13, 2009 p. 28

References

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