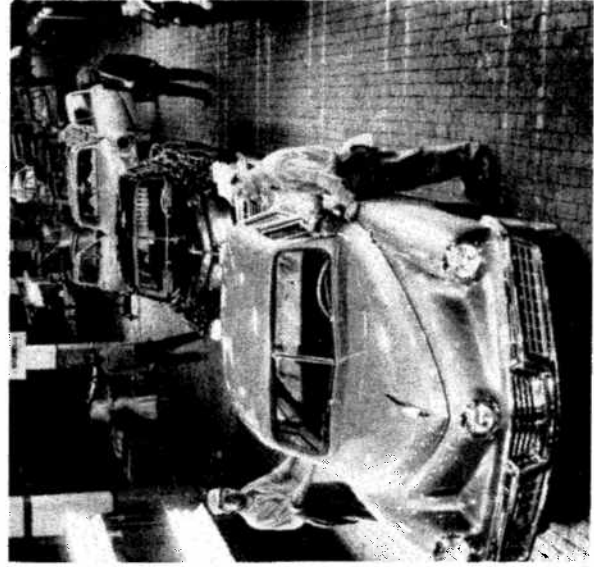


Learn about the unusual role Ypsilanti and its pioneers played in the history of the American automobile.

- See over thirty vehicles of a bygone era which are connected to Ypsilanti's history.
- Study first hand the signs and records of early area auto dealers
- Solve the mystery of the world's most notorious highway map
- Gain a new perspective on the matchless significance the evolution and development of the automobile has had on our society in the past 100 years.



## Did you know?

*In its 37 years of operation, GM's Willow Run Assembly produced over 7,000,000 vehicles.*

*Alfred Langer was urged by Henry Ford to bring Golde Patent Company "folding top business" to Ypsilanti from New York in order to be closer to the auto capital. The company became Motor State Products, manufacturers of convertible tops for all autos!*

*In the 1969 model year, a whopping 283,000 Chevrolet Novas were manufactured at the Ypsilanti Willow Run plant!*

*From the first production of 500 "ACE cars built in 1920, many were shipped to be sold in the Portland, Oregon area.*

## MUSEUM HOURS

Monday - Friday 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Saturday - 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sunday - noon to 5:00 p.m.

## DIRECTIONS

I-94, exit 183 (Huron St.) north to Cross Street, turn right and your in Depot Town. The museum is located at the east end of Depot Town at the corner of Cross Street & River Street. Free parking is available behind the museum parallel to the railroad tracks.

Tax deductible donations will help maintain this remarkable facility for your children and grandchildren to enjoy. Do you have Ypsilanti automotive artifacts and memorabilia you wish to donate?

In the interest of public health and the complete safety of our exhibits this is a smoke free building.

[www.ypsiautoheritage.org](http://www.ypsiautoheritage.org)



# Ypsilanti's Automotive Heritage Museum and Miller Motors Hudson



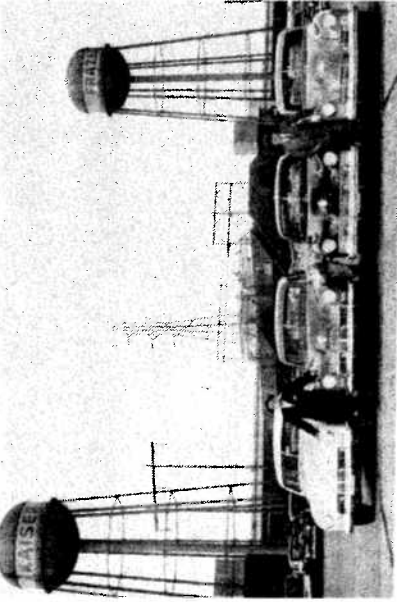
*A community educational project*

100 East Cross Street  
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198  
Phone: (734) 482-5200



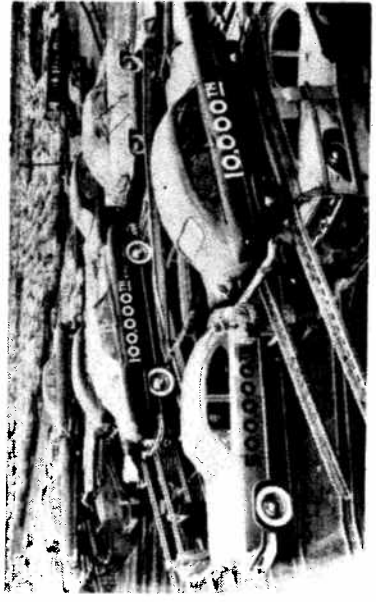
**We are a Hub Gateway to the Motor Cities-Automobile National Heritage Area!**

In Historic Depot Town

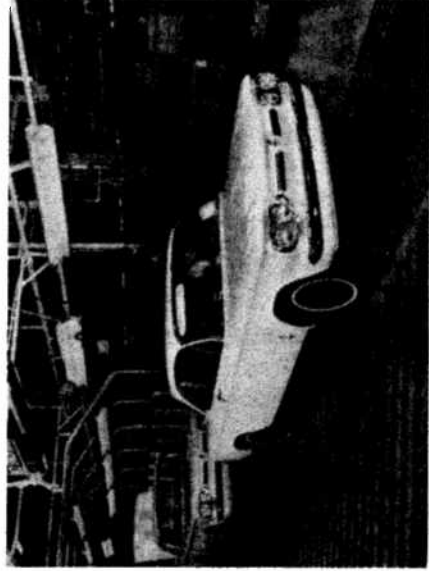


The Ypsilanti Automotive Heritage Museum is funded entirely by private contributions. It is a tax exempt organization (501-C3) and donations of money and Ypsilanti Automotive memorabilia would be greatly appreciated.

Ypsilanti has a unique automotive history for a city of its size. Apex Motors which produced the "ACE" car from 1920-1922 was located on south River Street and Preston Tucker whose family owned the Ypsilanti Machine Tool Company developed and built the prototypes for his "Tucker Torpedo" here and later acquired a World War II assets plant for production of 51 units before the government shut him down.



Henry J. Kaiser and Joseph W. Frazer purchased the gigantic Willow Run B-24 bomber plant in 1945 from the government and began production in mid-year 1946 of Kaiser and Frazer models for 1947. 1953 saw the last Kaiser cars produced at Willow Run as production was moved to Toledo, Ohio as a result of the merger of Kaiser and Willys-Overland. GM's Powertrain Division (formerly known as the Hydramatic Division) bought the Kaiser Frazer plant and began production of automatic transmissions in November of 1953.



In 1956 Chevrolet began producing large special order trucks in the building which formerly housed KF engineering and the spare parts facility for the B-24 Bomber Plant. Later this plant would be enlarged several times, first for the manufacturer of the Corvair from 1959 to 1969 and then for the Nova, Ventura, Omega, Skylark series of GM cars and in 1980 the plant was converted to production of the GM X-series front wheel drive cars. Finally the last cars produced there were the second generation Chevrolet Caprice sedans and station wagons along with the Buick and Oldsmobile station wagons. The plant was closed in 1993.

Ypsilanti is also home to the worlds last Hudson dealer which is now a part of Automotive Heritage Museum and is located within. With its records dating to 1927 a priceless part of Ypsilanti automotive history is now preserved. See original Hudson dealer memorabilia and cars displayed. Thirty vehicles representing Ypsilanti's automotive heritage are displayed.

Other examples of Ypsilanti's Automotive Heritage include the Ford Generator plant as it was known for many years, Motor State Products which produced convertible tops and hydraulic window assemblies, the Jim Robbins Seat Belt Company, Sanderson Metal Parts Company and the foundry at King-Seely's Central Specialty Division which cast the Hudson dual carburetor and dual exhaust manifolds from 1952 to 1956. Wire wheel hubcaps which were introduced to the mass auto market in the mid sixties originated at the Gar-Wood/United Metal Craft Plant here in Ypsilanti. Later it would be known as Norris Industries. Motor Wheel Corporation purchased the Central Specialty plant in 1964 and began production of automobile brake drums and disc brake rotors.

