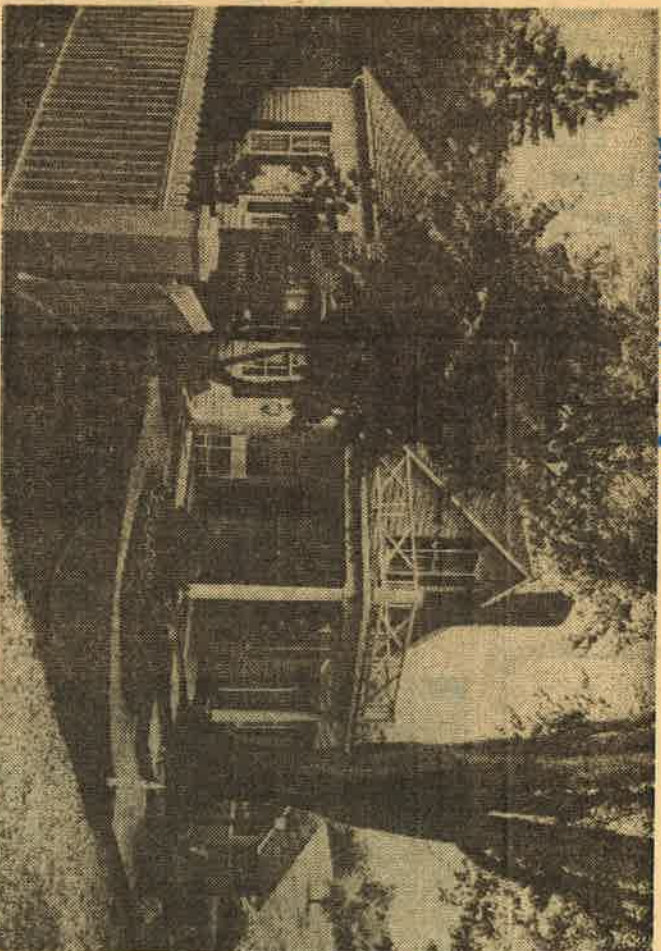


The controversial Hunter's Whip 1835 farmhouse that deteriorates while litigation continues.



The Daniels' house, built around 1840, had been modernized; but it was restored by present owners.

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Will Historic Franklin Village Save Itself?

ZONING THREATENS MICHIGAN SITE

BY LILIAN JACKSON BRAUN
Free Press Staff Writer

Philadelphia's historic Society Hill saved itself. Will Michigan's Franklin Village be able to save itself?

Will any district, officially designated historic, be able to save itself in this state?

The future of historic preservation may be determined on July 19 by the outcome of a court case testing the constitutionality of Michigan's Enabling Act.

At the center of the controversy is Franklin village, first historic district in Michigan to

the name of Bullock settled on the west side of the road.

"A Dr. Raynate, who came here in 1828, named it Franklin Village, after Benjamin Franklin. In 1837 Col. Peter Van Every sold his Detroit holdings and purchased the grist mill, which is now the cider mill.

"You find these names on gravestones in the cemetery." The Franklin settlement remained small because it was bypassed by the railroad tracks in the later 1800s.

The mill and the Broughton Wagon Shop are still standing

from one of the old windows that remains."

The doorways are small by today's standards and out-of-square.

"We preserved the cockeyedness," Herman Marshall said. "It was hard to find ways, but we found some down south. These date to Civil War days."

Fight Centers On "The Whip"

The Daniel Broughton house has fared less well. Built in 1835, it is commonly called the

and refusal to give him a demolition permit. He also will challenge the constitutionality of the Historic District laws.

"It is the first time that Act 169 has been taken to court and tested," said Altekruze. "If the court rules in his favor, all historic districts in Michigan will be endangered."

"This is the dilemma. The residents moved here for the quality of the historic town. In 1968-69, when merchants were surveyed, they felt their economic well-being tied in with the preservation of atmos-

thinking about cultural sources. Antiquity in itself is being recognized as a value.

"The trend is gaining momentum," said Altekruze.

"We see it in the desire to possess antiques, restore antique cars, fly antique planes. It's a desire not to let go of the past — not just to preserve it in museums and history books but to make it useful."

"We don't want to live in a museum," Mrs. Altekruze said. "We want to keep the town alive."