



Remembering When ...

Our History

REMEMBERING CORA BLISS TAYLOR, one of Saugatuck's most loved (and legendary) artists and art teachers, died in 1986 at the age of 97. She was famous for her paintings of local scenes and flowers—and for her rather exaggerated hats. She studied in Paris, Provincetown, New York, and at the Art Institute of Chicago. She came to Saugatuck in 1931 and had two studios in Saugatuck

at various times—the first at a perfect little studio at 749 Holland Street (now somewhat altered and with a new owner) and later at the rear of ---Mason Street. While on Holland Street she lived next door (to the north) with her husband, 'the Judge,' and at Mason Street she lived in the cottage-like house to the front. The Holland Street studio, as you can see, was also her "Saugatuck Art Gallery."

The Taylor Art School closed in 1980—after nearly a half century. One of the best of her paintings of local subjects is of All Saints Church, now in the Historical Society collection. We are collecting recollections of those who studied and/or knew Cora Bliss Taylor. Please contact us if you have something to share.

By Jim Schmiechen



The *Remembering When* feature is the creation of volunteers Jim Schmiechen and Jack Sheridan of the Saugatuck-Douglas Historical Society. Utilizing the SDHS technical resources, Jack produces the finished feature every week. Jim is a history professor and our master of research. We split the fun of choosing topics, photos and writing. Thanks to our readers, the *Local Observer* and SDHS supporters, we enjoy this opportunity to exhibit the great history of our area.

We welcome your comments on *Remembering When*. Call 269 857-7901, email us at sdhistory@accn.org or write to Box 617 Douglas, MI 49406. SDHS historical images can be seen on the SDHS web site at www.sdhistory.com and all historical photos are available for purchase in print sizes up to 12x17. Our historical image database is growing through your contributions. We scan your old photos—you keep the originals—and we then provide you with a CD of your digitized images.

Jack Sheridan



Jim Schmiechen