

Milford Times, 1932

“Twas an Old Time Hostelry

The present home of Mrs. F.H. Coe and the house next east [115 & 117 E. Summit St.] were once “The Hibbard Tavern” of whose early history Mrs. E.S. DeGarmo said:

“About this original house that was a tavern—the story was that the man who kept the tavern was an especially fine landlord and that he had the very spirit of the profession. He was jovial, hospitable and served good food and the house was very cleanly, and that the travelling public at that time always made it a point to make Hibbard Tavern. The road to Pontiac came down to the pond, up over the hill, over the Catholic hill and then to Pontiac. Mr. Hibbard heard talk about the road being changed and made his hospitality all the more enjoyable in order to keep the road where it was. A stage ran from Pontiac to Lansing, and was driven by a man named Deacon. Deacon never did tell what was his last name or his first name. He drove the stage, making three trips a week. When he would get to the top of what is now Gillick’s hill he tooted his horn and then all the children and the families who received newspapers would get out on the street for their papers.

A long porch ran the full length of the house, and until it was remodeled the cornice on one end of the little house still matched the cornice on the west end of the big house.”