The houses identified in this folder are among the oldest in the village in Rochester, Racine County, Wisconsin.

They have sheltered people of varied ages, interests and origins, as ownership and occupancy have changed through the years.

They have borne witness to birth and death, and all the stages of life of the people who have known them as "home".

Abstracts which identify their locations reveal intricate histories of property interchange, mortgages undertaken and discharged, and ownership shared, without clearly establishing construction dates of many of the buildings involved.

We urge everyone who has further information concerning the houses and other matters of meaning and interest in local history to report it to us (the House-Walk Committee of Rochester's Bicentennial Celebration of July 3 & 4, 1976). We ask you, too, for correction of errors in the recorded information we have gathered from many sources. And we truly thank the people who have participated in the gathering. We will combine your findings with ours, and deposit them safely in archives where they will be available through the years. Perhaps they will invite Rochester's Tricentennial Committee to have another birthday celebration in the year 2076 A.D.

Concerning the pictures: The elms, on the cover, arched across half a mile or so of Old Highway 36 on the west side of Fox River in the Town of Rochester. Like the buildings pictured on other pages, they exist now only in remembrances, and in records such as these. Photographs reproduced here were borrowed from old albums. We longed to include many others.

We hope you will find all this (and so much more) even half as interesting as it has become to us who grew into a group as we searched out and pondered THESE HOUSES WHERE PEOPLE LIVED

IN THIS COMMUNITY WHERE PEOPLE LIVE.