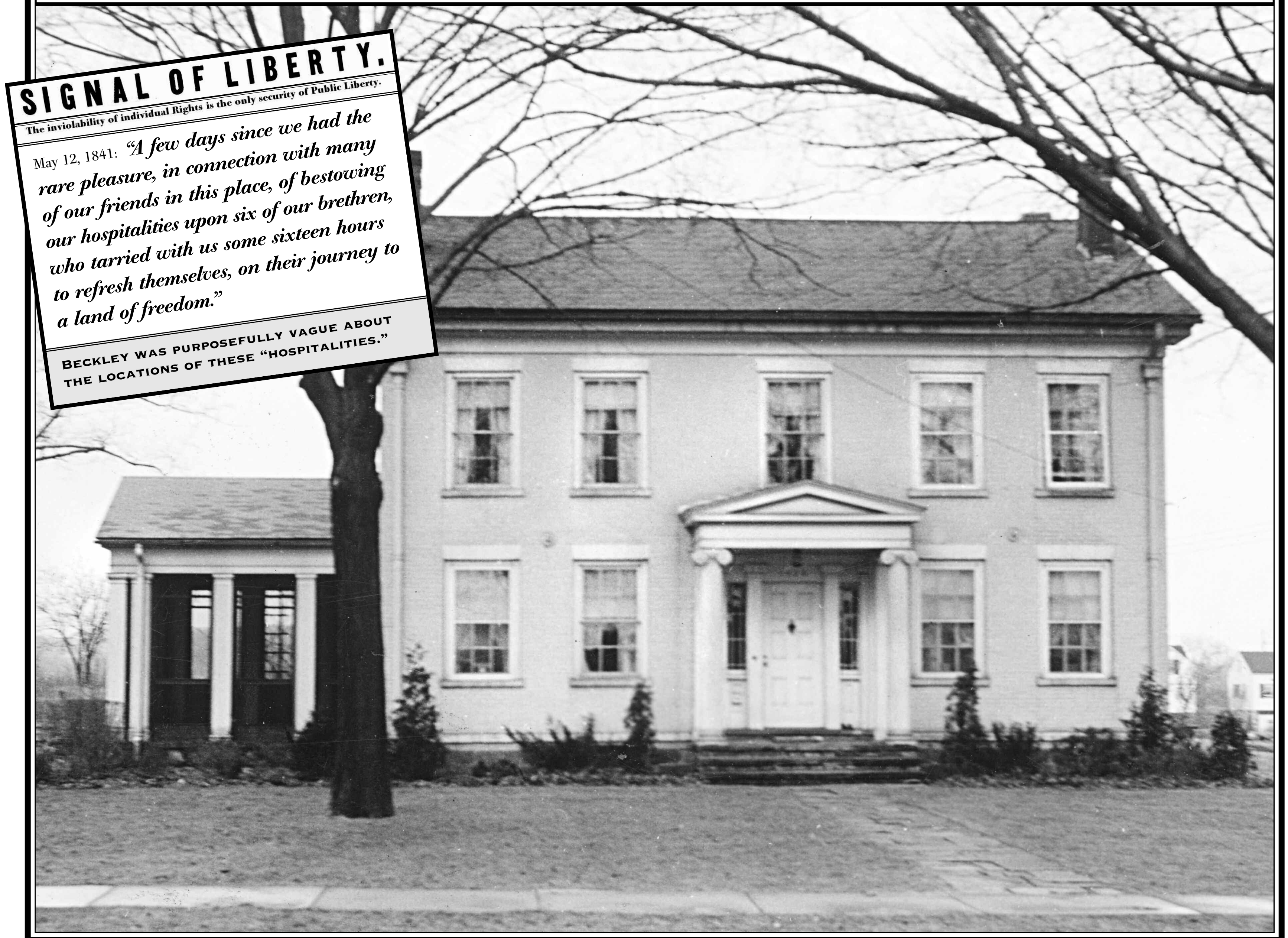


REV. GUY BECKLEY HOUSE, 1425 PONTIAC TRAIL, PHOTO 1930S



**SIGNAL OF LIBERTY.**

The inviolability of individual Rights is the only security of Public Liberty.

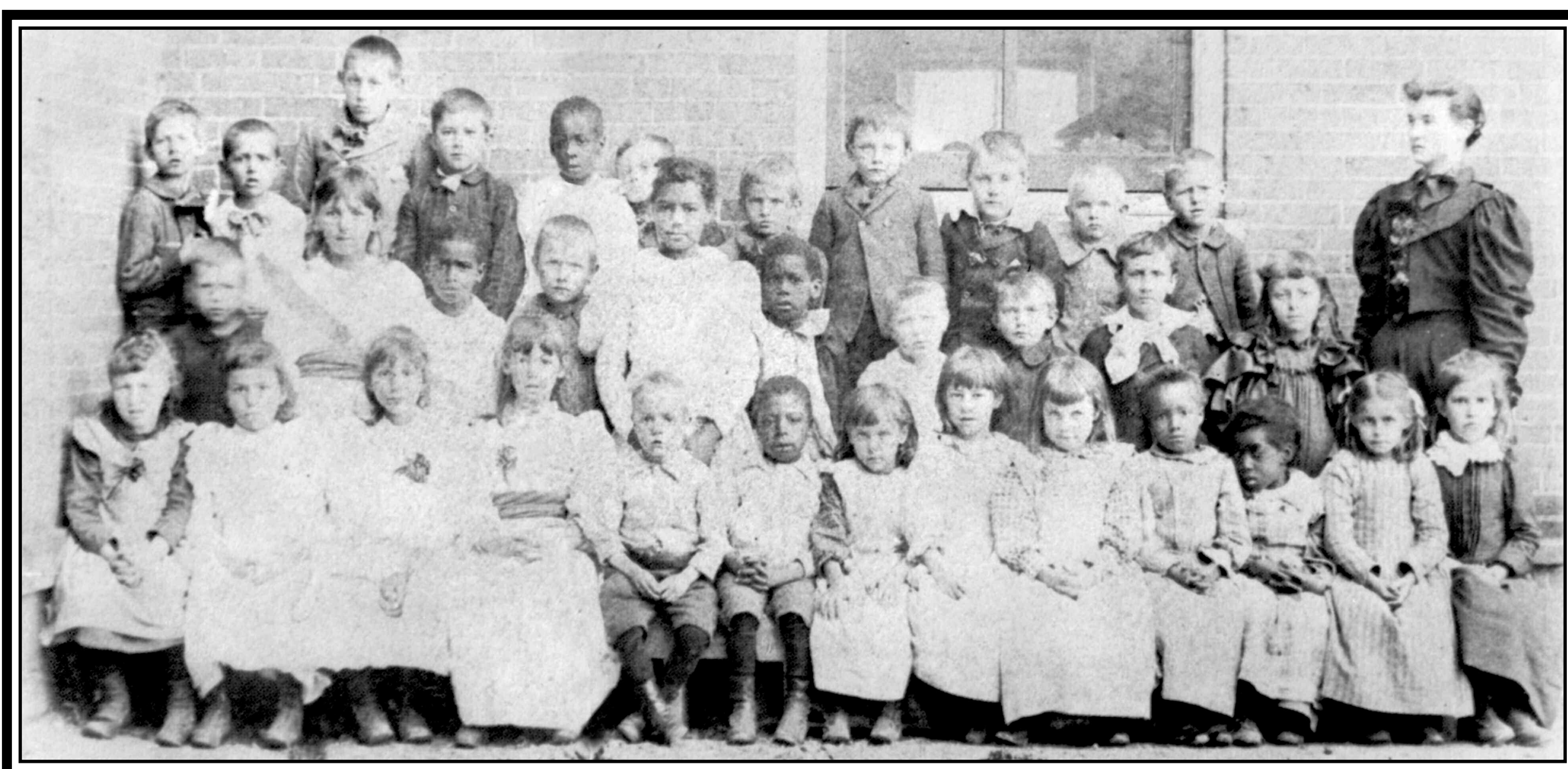
May 12, 1841: "A few days since we had the rare pleasure, in connection with many of our friends in this place, of bestowing our hospitalities upon six of our brethren, who tarried with us some sixteen hours to refresh themselves, on their journey to a land of freedom."

BECKLEY WAS PURPOSEFULLY VAGUE ABOUT THE LOCATIONS OF THESE "HOSPITALITIES."

## THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

**R**ev. Guy Beckley was a "conductor" on the Underground Railroad, even though it was a federal crime to help escaping slaves. His house nearby on Pontiac Trail was one of several secret "stations" in the area. Caroline Quarlls, who escaped from slavery, stayed with Beckley on her journey to freedom in Canada. Michigan's Anti-

Slavery Society was established in Ann Arbor in 1836. Starting in 1841, its newspaper, *The Signal of Liberty*, which called for the abolition of slavery in the United States, was published in the Huron Block, directly across Broadway from here, by Beckley and his co-editor Theodore Foster. Beckley died in 1847.



AFRICAN AMERICANS HAD SETTLED IN THE ANN ARBOR AREA LONG BEFORE THE CIVIL WAR. THOMAS FREEMAN, A BARBER, AND J. W. BROOKS, A DRAYMAN, MINISTER, AND FORMER SLAVE, WERE DELEGATES TO THE 1843 STATE CONVENTION OF COLORED CITIZENS OF MICHIGAN. IT DEMANDED BETTER JOBS, EDUCATION, AND THE RIGHT TO VOTE. ANN ARBOR SCHOOLS WERE INTEGRATED. THIS PHOTO (CA. 1880) SHOWS STUDENTS AT THE FIFTH WARD SCHOOL, BUILT IN 1855 ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF WALL STREET.

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