

The Henry Ford House- Part Two in a Three Part Series

We had a fun day at the main event grounds, but today we were going to visit the Henry Ford house. Sometimes one wonders why they had so many rooms in those days?



(Outside of the garage)

This is where our tour started after a comfortable ride in an air-conditioned shuttle bus. This was no ordinary garage as it was clean as a whistle and to say the least....huge!



(Everyone listened to our speaker)

It was neat seeing all of those old cars in one place and it was amazing to see how inventive Henry Ford was. He thought of things that no one would ever think of in those days.



(Everyone was really amazed at how many old cars were in that garage)

Check out this electric car below.

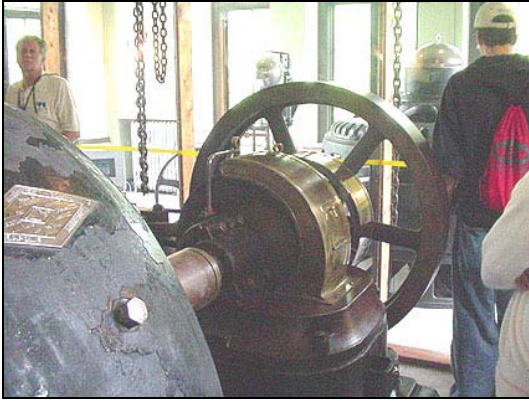


(Who would have ever thought that an electric car would have been produced so long ago?)

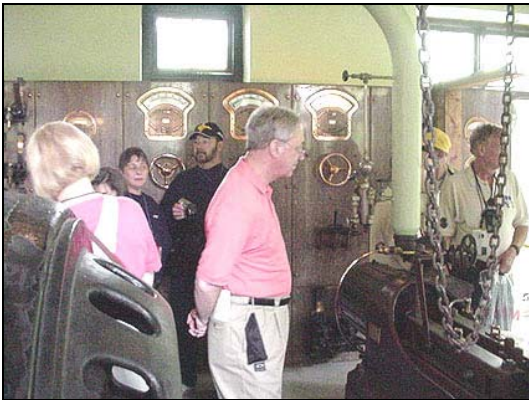


(Nice display explaining the production of the electric car)

The garage was always fun to check out but there was more to see than just the parking garage for Mr Ford's cars.



(The generators were huge)



(Those meters on the wall measured how much power was being produced)



(There were generators made up on a smaller scale model so you can see how they worked)

One of the first rooms we walked into was the power generator room. The generators were so big that they took up most of the room. They produced all of the electricity for the house and grounds.



(This is what it looked like outside of the generator room)

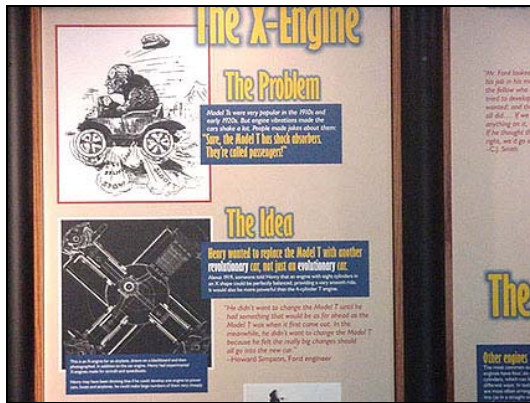
We then went to a room below the generator room that housed the central vacuum system for the house. It's amazing how many things were invented long before many of us were born.



(Central vacuum was invented a long time ago, we just didn't know it.)

If you look in the background of the above picture, you will see a display that illustrated a new type of engine that Henry Ford invented. It's called the "X" engine. The engine had some very basic problems to be solved before it could run efficiently. The engine's oiling

system could never work out to oil every component sufficiently, therefore the engine was scrapped.



(X-engine display)

You had to walk underneath the ground to the main house from the generator room. The entire walkway had pipes and wires running along side the walls and each other.



(One of the first rooms we saw was Edsel's room.)

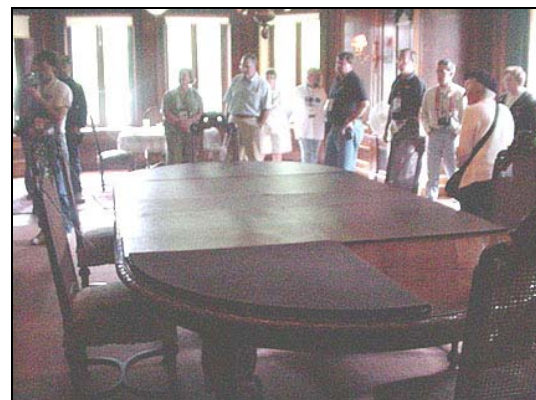
There were so many rooms in the house that it was difficult to determine which room was for which activity. All of the rooms were kept in pristine shape. The ceilings were extremely high and the walls were decorated with custom handiwork.



(The dance room sported an area for the musicians to play their instruments for the guests)



(Almost every room had bay windows in it.)



(The dining room had two tables in it, one for the adults and one for the children)

When Henry Ford threw a party, he did it in style!



(The dance room had a huge fireplace in it.)

The dance room had a huge fireplace in it with a special carved mantel. It had wood beams above your head to support the ceilings. The beams also had special carved faces of famous people. One of which was Thomas Alva Edison.



(The hallways had many chandeliers in them.)

As we walked from room to room, we walked through hallways that had some very ornate chandeliers. The handrails were solid wood with carved designs in them. Check out the clock in the very far right corner. All of the hallways had some sort of antiques in them.



(The music room had a piano in it.)

Like most of the older houses of this size, they had a piano in it with a special room designated for playing music and giving music lessons.



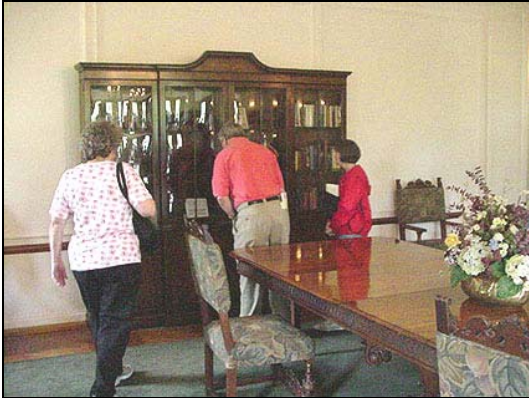
(There were huge marble fireplaces in many of the rooms.)

This fireplace is in the music room. Everyone would listen to music and have a relaxing time near the fireplace.



(The study walls were lined with books)

Mr. Ford liked to read. He gained most of his knowledge from reading books. He saved every book he read and added it to his library collection.



(Pictured here is the "reading" room)



(This used to be the swimming pool room but now it's the cafeteria)



(There were more high ceilings and decorative plants in the room).

When the tour of the house was over, we went to have lunch in the cafeteria that used to be the swimming room.

The pool was filled with concrete and the room was then used for modern day dining. We then went outside to view the gardens and check out the river that powered the generators.



(This is the river that was used to power the generators, left to right: Tony Sorrentino, Dennis McCrary, Matt Porter, and Peter Calvert)



(Due to all of the recent rain, it was a raging river)

This is the funny part as we exited the home to go to the gardens. Peter Calvert was leading the pack when we ran up on a "substitute" tour guide. She only fills in occasionally but Pete got her to give us a special tour. It was hilarious and Pete was in unusual spirits.



(This is the boat landing)

It looked like the boat landing needed to be cleaned out. But our tour guide took her shoes off and put her feet in the moldy waters. We teased her about it but we just went on....



(This was just a sample of the colors that were in the gardens)

Hope you enjoyed the coverage of the Henry Ford house and gardens. Stay tuned for part three of our trip to the "The Road Is Ours", Ford's 100th Celebration!



(The grounds had a huge tree house built on it.)



Ford Motor Company
100 YEARS

"The Road Is Ours!"



(This little house was on the grounds and looked more like a doll house)