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Holiday spirit of olden days

An Old-Time Christmas



Small American flags and candles in tin holders decorate a tree in the Henry Ford birthplace. The flag idea came from a picture in an 1866 magazine. Ford, the car builder, remembered a tree decorated just this way.



Sleigh rides give holiday visitors a glimpse of winters past.

Dearborn, Michigan — Greenfield Village is an unusual place.

It is a site that contains nearly 100 historic buildings.

Old stores, offices, businesses and factories have been moved here from many parts of the country.

Some of the buildings are homes. Some of the homes once belonged to famous Americans.

Each year at Christmastime, 40 of these buildings are decorated the way they were in years past.

Thousands of visitors flock to see the joys of an old-time Christmas.



Children of today watch while a craftsman shows how wooden toys were made many years ago. Craftsmen also demonstrate how to make wreaths, dolls, quilts, cookies and brooms.



A suckling pig on the dining room table is featured in this well-to-do Maryland plantation home of the 1650s. (A suckling pig is a baby that was still nursing from its mother.)



Strings of popcorn and candles decorate this early 1900s' tree in the Wright brothers' home. This year marks the 75th anniversary of the Wright brothers' first flight at Kitty Hawk, N.C., on December 17, 1903.



A kissing bell made with laurel, mistletoe, apples and candles hangs from the ceiling in an 1840s' house. The story is that young couples would make a game of trying to bite the apples and while doing it, exchange a kiss.