



Final Report of the  
**Lansing Historic District Study Committee**  
For the Proposed  
**Ranney Building Historic District**  
208 S. Washington Avenue, Lansing, Michigan 48933

Prepared by:  
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For the Committee

Prepared for:  
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Lansing, Michigan 48933

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## Local Historic District Study Committee Report Cover Form

**Historic District Name:** Ranney Building Historic District

**Related Address:** 208 S. Washington Avenue

**City/Village:** Lansing

**Township:** Lansing

**County:** Ingham

**Date Transmitted:** October 20, 2005

**Report Type:** Preliminary

**Total Number of Resources:** 1 Historic, 0 Non-Historic

**Percentage:** 100%

### **District is Significant under the following National Register Criteria:**

**Criterion A: Historic Event or Role:** The Ranney Building was constructed in 1890 on Block 115 of the Original Plat of the City of Lansing. This block is unique in Lansing's development because it had been set aside in the 1847 plan of the City as the site of the first, temporary, Capitol Building, and remained State Land into the 1880s. With the State's decision in the early 1870s to construct the permanent Capitol on its present site, a new State Office Building was constructed in 1871 on the northeast corner of Block 115 on Washington Avenue at Allegan Street. After the old Capitol Building burned in 1882 in the center of the block, the Washington Avenue side of Block 115 was re-platted as 24-foot lots. In 1883, with his purchase of Lot 17, Dr. George E. Ranney became the first private landholder there, opening a doctor's office. He constructed the present three-story, red sandstone building on that lot in 1890. The site was dedicated to doctors' offices for nearly 50 years, doctors who were involved in local, state, regional, and national advances in medicine and public health.

