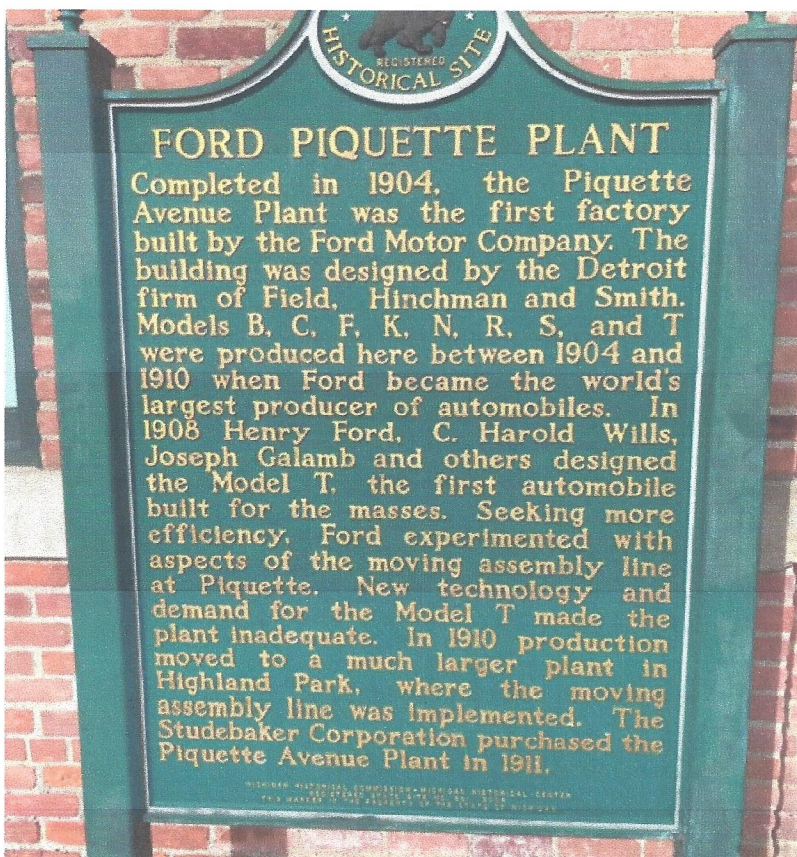
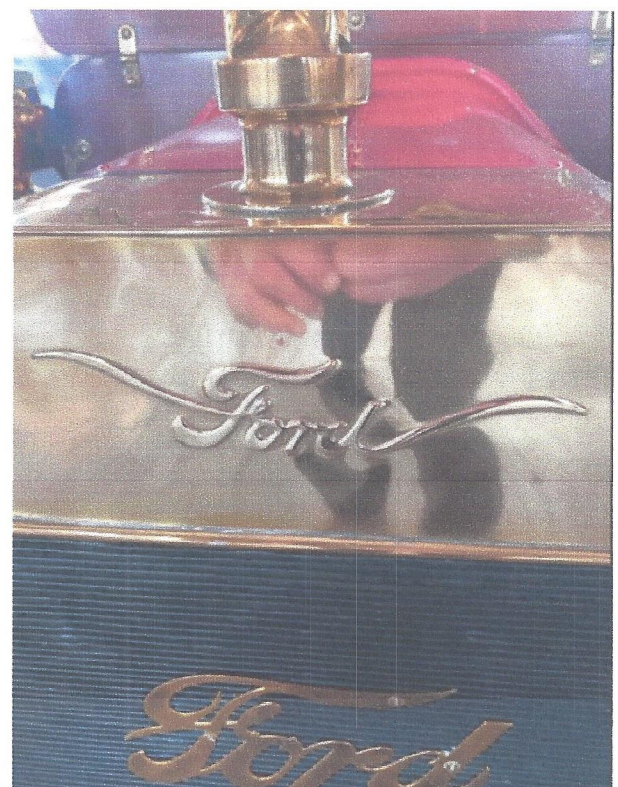


On Friday, November 12, Mike arranged for us to tour the **Ford Piquette Ave. plant** in Detroit. This was the very first property that Henry Ford bought and he eventually used it to build the first Model T's, until demand outweighed plant capacity. As you can imagine, the facility wasn't much to look at from the outside and looked too small for those of us used to the large manufacturing facilities of today, but I was pleasantly surprised to find out how well they restored it to how it was originally outfitted. Our private tour guide was very knowledgeable and passionate about the museum and gave us an enjoyable tour. I was also surprised to learn that they built all the alphabet cars there at one time and this is where Henry Ford experimented on the assembly process as well as a way to make the Model T inexpensive enough for anybody to afford.



Outside plaque denoting this site as a historical site along with a brief historical prospectus

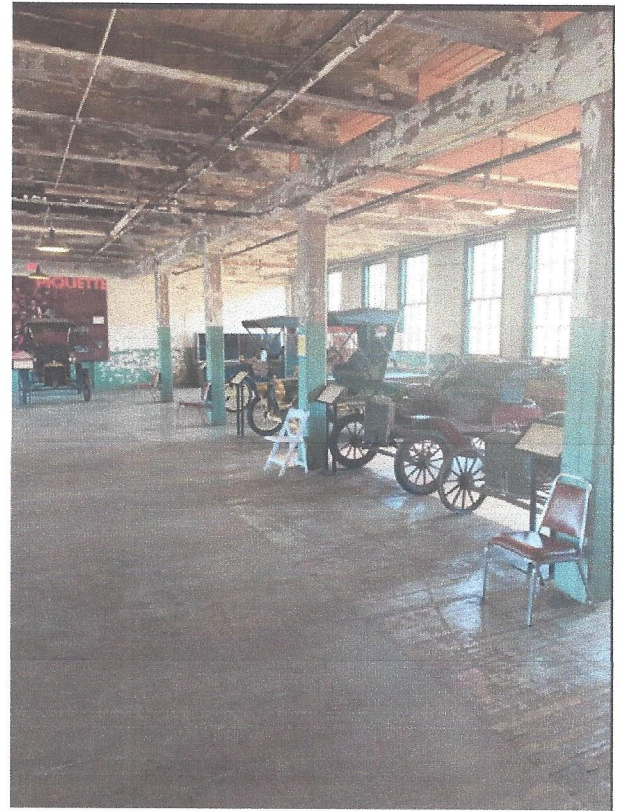
Ford's original emblem with wings. This was only used for cars manufactured at the Piquette plant.







Main  
Factory  
floor



Here you can see  
Sheila ready to  
take us on a ride  
around town



I was so impressed with the tour guide that he almost converted me to being a Ford guy, **not really**, and I was pleasantly surprised how much original Ford history was at this plant and how much I learned about Henry Ford and his revolutionary ideas. I was also amazed they use the museum for a lot of local events. While we were there, they were getting ready for a wedding after closing time.





At the north-east corner of the second floor, Henry created a super secret room where only a select few people could enter. Here he experimented with all aspects of the manufacturing process along with ways to make the cars better and more economical. This is where he also looked at every component of the Model T to make them lower priced and faster and easier to make, while still meeting his engineering standards.

After the tour, most of us met up at the **Traffic Jam and Snug** for a great lunch. All and all, this became a very delightful, educational and entertaining day for the editor and well worth the time and the \$10 admission fee.