McDonough County Historic Preservation Society

100 South Campbell Street • Macomb, Illinois 61455

President, Ian Fischer Vice Pres., Randy Powell Co-secretaries, Jeri Scott & Fred Seaton Treasurer, Judy Kentner Caretaker, Susan Welsh Board of Directors: Rustle Anderson, Bob Fischer, Jason Hall, Bill Harroun, Dan Lewis, Allen Nemec Jeff Paisley, Kent Slater, and Roger Barclay

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Henderson - Watson Home

503 East Washington Street Built 1906



Local auctions can produce great historical finds that have been hidden from the public for many years. The Randall Watson auction has produced this original home photo of the Henderson home located on East Washington Street.

This home was built by William Washington Henderson born in Harrison, Ohio and Sarah A. (nee Marshall) Washington born in Vermont, Illinois. William Henderson's family moved to Fulton Co. IL near Ver-

mont around 1846. He moved to Eldorado Township, McDonough Co., rented first, then purchased farm land. He and Sarah were married in December 1860. He was the first farmer in his township to install a telephone and owned several farms at his death.

His obituary stated "5 years ago, on the day before Thanksgiving, they moved to a fine new residence on East Washington." Macomb Daily Journal, October 11, 1911.

The Henderson's had 6 children. Their daughter Rhoda, lived with them in this home. Their son Charles Henderson married Agnes McMillian of Scotland Township and from this marriage produced a daughter Lena G. Henderson ,who married Albert B. Watson. Lena and Albert produced a son Randall Watson of which the auction of his property produced this early family home.

From the President's Desk

Greetings members,

We have had a busy year in 2014 with the Bailey House continuing to be our major focus. As many of you know, as of last year, the house is listed on the National Registry of Historic Places. With that designation, the Board decided to utilize exemptions accorded to historic places to make the house handicapped accessible. We anticipate completion of a handicapped lift on the south side of the house very soon.

Starry Nights Reparatory Theatre continued to use the house for productions and many people enjoyed the house for various other social events. Heavy use of the house and work to install the lift has made the board aware of the need for continued maintenance. The porches on the front and south side of the house are in need of rehabilitation, the house's copper pipes need replacing and the exterior on the south side needs to be painted. To be able to provide a safe and well preserved home for the community to enjoy, we will need additional income in 2015. We are asking our members and interested parties to consider contributing toward these and other projects.

I would like to thank everyone who contributed monetary donations or discounted services toward completion of the handicapped lift or other projects completed at the home in the past year. Additionally, I would like to extend special thanks to Jo and Dwayne Roche for work around the house, Wes Hartjen for help with electrical work installing the lift, Fred Seaton for his continued contributions to the board and especially Allen Nemec for all of his work as a member of the board and on this newsletter.

Ian Fischer, **Board President**

**************** **NEEDING SOME SPACE?**

Office Space is Currently Available in the **Old Bailey House**

Email Ian Fischer for details at fishklown@aol.com

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Community Service Organizations wanted!



The Old Bailey House is looking for a few individuals or groups for various projects. Contact Judy at Judy.Kentner@yahoo.com to Volunteer

Now!



Dear Bailey House Supporter;

What is it about the Bailey House you enjoy? That it has been designated part of the Downtown Historic District? You hosted or attended some event held at the Bailey House? That it's a piece of Macomb history that has been restored and continues to be a valuable community asset?

If you're like me, it's all of the above. Every time I walk into the Bailey House (which is at least weekly), I can envision family gatherings and events that took place over the past 125 years. Even now families and friends are making memories with birthday and anniversary parties, graduation celebrations and wedding receptions. This wonderful facility continues to be available to the community 365 days a year and for your next special gathering! But the Bailey House needs help from friends and admirers like you. This 127 year old house needs constant care. As it ages, the cost of preserving the house grows every year.

Will you help by giving a tax-deductible gift of \$100 or whatever your budget can support?

My fellow McDonough County Historic Preservation Society board members and I are passionate about preserving the Bailey House for your children and grandchildren. In fact many of the projects are funded by board members.

Our current project involved the purchase and installation of an electric wheelchair lift. We will now be able to accommodate our friends that use a wheelchair for mobility. The project will ultimately cost \$10,000 and we are asking friends like you to help us raise the funds to cover that cost.

Will you please join me in being part of the Bailey House's future? Your support in maintaining, preserving and improving this treasure will be deeply appreciated.

Sincerely,

Randy Powell Board Member

P.S. Your gift can be sent to; McDonough County Historic Preservation Society at 100 S Campbell St, Macomb Il 61455.

The John Carrison Historic Barn

By Allen R. Nemec

Traveling through McDonough County with Kent Slater is truly an education on barn histories and construction. As we ventured into many historic barns on the east side of the county, I learned about window construction, hardware and differences in barn roof construction. One of the more interesting original barns in the county is located east of Adair in Section 14, New Salem Township.



The recent passing of Doris Bernice Sellars great grand-daughter of John Carrison, tells the story of her family and this historic property.

"In 1851 my great. grandparents, John Carrison, Jr. and Louisiana Holmes, were married. She lived east of Table Grove, IL...Sec. 34, Farmers' township. Her mother and father, Nathan and Mary (Miller) Holmes, are buried in Zoll Cemetery in a nice lot surrounded by an iron fence and gate.

In 1854 John and Louisiana Carrison bought land in Sec 14, New Salem Township., McDonough County. I have registered this farm as a Centennial Farm and have written the details concerning it in "Centennial Farms of Illinois." The first Adair post office was on this

farm (information from John and Wanda (Herndon) Hammond. My brother Don Carrison found an English coin while plowing in this area. The Carrison had come to the United States from England.

The four children who survived John and Louisiana Carrison were: 1. Almira (1856-1940) m. Frank Swedell; 2. Ezra (1859-1943) m. Olive Miner; 3. Sarah (1865-Leonard 1950) Spencer; 4. Emma (1869-1947)never married. She cared





very much for her seven nieces and nephews and managed to leave each 80 acres of land.

This is a farm of a poor English family with little, if any, formal education. Through hard work and frugality they realized their dream of bettering their lot and children."

The rough sawn timbers that support the roof of the Carrison—Sellars barn are both beautiful and structurally sound.

Just south of the original barn stands the original cellar that was used for food storage and storm shelter.

The curved ceiling and wooden shelving still stand today as they did back in the early days when preserving food was important for the cold winter season.

Presented to

DORIS B. SELLARS

JOHN CARRISON BARN (c. 1885)

New Salem Township
McDonough County, Illinois

in recognition of your tion and preservation efforts



Doris Bernice Sellars, great granddaughter of John Carrison passed away on April 18, 2014. The McDonough County Voice stated, "Above all, Doris' greatest accomplishment was managing her beloved farmland in Adair and refurbishing her father's centennial barn on the property—something she felt was a treasure for future generations to admire."

We truly do admire the preservation work Doris has undertaken and hope that this barn remains for many, many more years to come.



McDonough County Historic Preservation Memorials

Bequests in memory of your loved ones can be made to the McDonough County Historic Preservation Society, a 501 (c)3 organization.

Remembering the Past by Preservation for the Future.

A 501 (c)3 organization, remembering and appreciating the past.

The Old Bailey House to Become Handicap Accessible

The Old Bailey House will become handicap accessible in the near future. Work is under way to repair the front porch with access at the south end. New cement has been poured and a new opening in the fence will allow access from the alley to the Old Bailey House. Plans are to have the wiring complete and lift in operation by this coming spring. It has been a long time in the making, as Bob Fischer has researched and implemented the action necessary to make this a reality. Thank you Bob!



McDonough County Historic Preservation Society Winter 2014/2015

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Old Bailey House
100 South Campbell St.
PO Box 266
Macomb, IL 61455

Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage PAID Macomb, IL 61455 Permit No. 455

Reserve The Old Bailey House for your next event! Large comfortable rooms, kitchen facilities available, and convenient to downtown. Call Susan at 309-318-0485 or 309-833-1727 to book your event.

