



McDonough County Historic Preservation Society

100 South Campbell Street • Macomb, Illinois 61455

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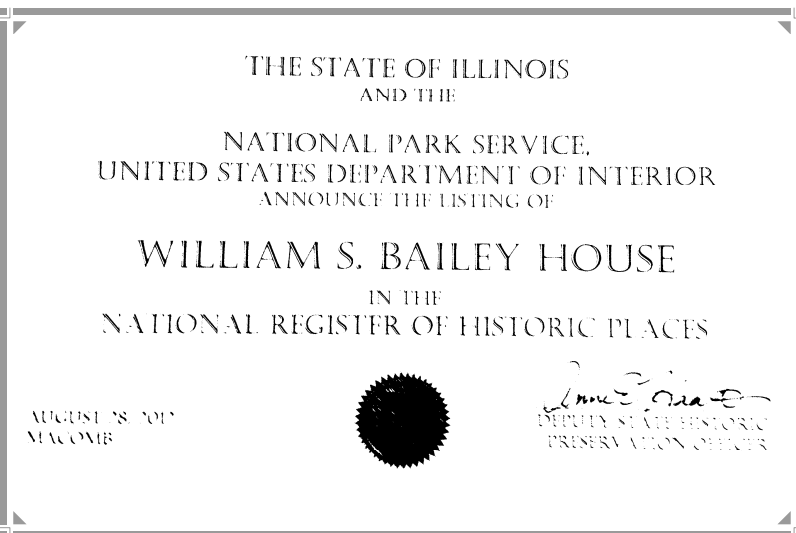
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The Old Bailey House On The National Register of Historic Places

In September 2012, and through close work with the Illinois Historic Preservation Commission, the McDonough County Historic Preservation Society was granted permission to list the Old Bailey House on the National Register of Historic Places by the National Park Service. The Board is pleased to be the third structure in the Macomb Historic District to receive this distinction along with the County Courthouse and Lamoine Hotel. The Board would like to thank the many people who contributed through the past several decades to making this designation possible. In particular, we want to thank Joshia William Collins, who donated the home to the newly created McDonough County Historic Preservation Society and to the group of foresighted citizens who formed the first Preservation Society Board (Kent Slater, Roger Carmack, Kenneth Epperson, Jim Jacobsen, Judy Kerr, John McDonald, Esther Nielsen, Mary Ewing).

We also recognize the work of Bob Fischer, Kent Slater, Charles Miller, John Hemmingway, Amy Hathaway, Andrew Heckenkamp, Allen Nemece, Jeri Scott, Randy Powell, Dan Lewis, and Marty Fischer, who contributed to the development of the National Registry application.



From the Past President's Desk

Greetings from the McDonough County Historic Preservation Society Board! Another year and the Board and its members have many reasons to celebrate. This year the House turned one hundred and twenty-five years old. William S. Bailey built the house in 1887 at 233 East Jackson Street, current location of P&M Automotive Service. It was moved in 1926 to its current location at 100 S. Campbell Street. The Historic Preservation Society was formed and restoration began thirty years ago. A thirty-year reunion, honoring students and contractors was held this past June during Heritage Days. Finally, and most importantly, the Old Bailey House was placed on the National Register of Historic Places June 13, 2012. All of these accomplishments and milestones would not have been possible without the many generous contributions of time and money.

In addition to the significant milestones listed above, progress was made on several maintenance projects. The heating and cooling systems were replaced and/or upgraded to increase efficiency. The first level floors will be stripped and refinished at the end of December, guaranteeing the floors will look great and last many more years. The pipe fence surrounding the property was cleaned and repainted. All the porch decks were washed, sanded and stained. Future projects facing the board include painting the exterior, painting interior woodwork, structural repair of the back porch, constructing an ADA ramp and minor roof repair (paint ridge structures).

As you can see there is constant maintenance required for "this old house". While much of the work is done by volunteers, some projects require professional attention (read funding requirement here). If you are able to donate time and/or would like to provide financial assistance please contact us. Go to www.mcdonoughhistory.jimdo.com and click on McDonough County Historic Preservation Society!

Thanks so much for your past support and we look forward to you helping us preserve this valuable historical asset future generations.

Sincerely,
Randy Powell

NEEDING SOME SPACE?

Office Space is Currently Available in the Old Bailey House

Email Ian Fischer for details at fishklown@aol.com

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!

1812 to 2012: Two Hundred Year Anniversary of the War of 1812

The Military Presence 1812 – 1815: A Local Look

By Robert Fischer and Marty Fischer

In the first part of the series on the War of 1812, we presented some insight into the importance of this conflict and its impact on the West Central Illinois region in the eventual granting of land to veterans. In this article, we will discuss the conflict between the native population (Indians) and the Americans, who established a military presence in West Central Illinois. We will further explore the role that the Indians played in this two and one half year conflict. Most Americans view the War with Britain as an east coast/Canadian event. However, the truth shows a much broader conflict involving even the far reaches of the Indiana/Illinois/Missouri Territories, lasting years beyond the end of the War. When most residents of McDonough County think of the War, they too probably think of battles and actions that took place far away. However, our county was near many key events of the war. For example, within 60 miles of Macomb were six forts providing protection from the Indians and British. Four of these forts were attacked at some time during the War. The following article provides only a summary of the events in frontier Illinois between 1812 and 1815.

A Brief Foundation

As noted in Part I of this series, the British, although no longer having control over the Midwest, still had interest in and continued to befriend various Indian tribes from the region. They continued to cultivate trade for furs from the Indians in exchange for firearms and supplies. Among these tribes was the Sauk, whose summer base of operation was at Saukenak (present day Rock Island) ranging as far south as present day Quincy, the Winnebago, Potawatomi, Fox, Kickapoo and others tied to British interests. At the beginning of the war Governor Edwards stated that the problems were 100 miles up the Illinois River at the mouth of the Sangamon, where the Potawatomi and Kickapoo were located.

The following map provides locations and reference to places mentioned in this article.

Our government was aware of the British exchange with local Indian tribes, and authorized William Henry Harrison, then Governor of the Indiana Territory, to scout out Indian activities and report to the military offices in St. Louis. St. Louis and the area west of the Mississippi had only recently been acquired from the French in the Louisiana Purchase of 1803. Americans were eager to exploit the new territory and its resources – fur, lead, timber and rich agricultural land.

Growing American Presence and Conflict in the Illinois Territory

After the battle of Tippecanoe on November 7, 1811, Ninian Edwards, the Territorial Governor of the recently created Illinois Territory, felt certain that Indians would retaliate by striking settlements in Illinois. He reported to the Secretary of War, William Eustis, that a large group of Indians was located 100 miles up the Illinois River at the mouth of the Sangamon River (Kickapoo and Potawatomi), and that they were grow-



ing in size and getting more hostile. He wanted to build a fort there, but the Indians wouldn't agree.

With the advent of war in June of 1812, the United States realized that it needed to protect its recently won prize, the northern Louisiana Purchase and Illinois Territory, from British interests and potential invasion. However, as our local leaders recognized, the real threat was from the native allies residing in the Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Missouri, and Minnesota region. To monitor and deal with this perceived threat a line of forts from the Mississippi River to the headwaters of the Kaskaskia and Sangamon Rivers (near present day Urbana/Champaign) running in an east-west line through the mouth of the Sangamon River were constructed under the orders of Governor Edwards.

At the time of the outbreak of the War, the largest population concentration in Illinois was probably Saukenuk (Rock Island), the home of the Sauk tribe and their Fox allies. The estimated population of the Sauk tribe was around 2850, with an additional 1750 Fox. (Ferguson, p 21) In general, the Sauk/Fox tribes did not accept an 1804 treaty signed with the United States that had ceded all Sauk and Fox lands between the Illinois and Wisconsin Rivers. The Treaty is disputed by many historians as having been a clear effort to defraud the five Indian Chiefs who purportedly put their marks on the Treaty. Signing away rights to land that generated over \$60,000 annually in fur trade for a total annual annuity of \$1,000 makes little sense. Adding to the 4600 Sauk/Fox, another 3,600 Potawatomi along the Illinois River, Kickapoo, Winnebago, Sioux, Iowan, and other tribes who resided in the Territory made it clear who dominated the territory. There were only 12,187 white residents in the entire territory (U.S. Census 1810) living predominately in the southern regions.

The following discussion will focus primarily on west central Illinois and the northern part of the Illinois Territory. Southern Illinois saw much action during the conflict. For information on this region see *Illinois in the War of 1812*, by Gillum Ferguson.

Lead up to the War of 1812

As early as 1806, Americans had attempted to establish a "factory fort," Fort Bellevue (later Fort Madison), on the Mississippi River. The "factory fort" had two major purposes. First, was to develop trade with the Indians. Second was as a defensive outpost. As noted above, the Sauk, who did not accept the 1804 Treaty signed in St. Louis, saw the fort as an invasion of their territory. Still, the trader, John Johnson, developed relationships with the Sauk/Fox and other tribes, trading American goods for furs and lead pigs. (Knox, 2012) Warriors, led by Black Hawk and encouraged by British Agent Robert Dickson, attempted to capture the fort and massacre the garrison in 1809. Although unsuccessful, this "invasion" and attack set the tone for the relationship between the Americans and the Black Hawk faction of the Sauk tribe. Attacks on men cutting firewood or hunting in the area of the Fort continued up to and after the outbreak of the War of 1812.

In June 1811, three Potawatomi braves, whose tribal territories were focused on the Illinois River Valley, attacked the Cox homestead near present day Pocahontas (south of Greenville). They killed Elijah, age 20, and kidnapped his sister Rebecca. Governor Edwards made efforts to mediate the conflict over the Cox incident through negotiations with Chief Gomo at the Potawatomi village. However, the problem of the fugitive Indians was left unsolved. Soon after, Governor Harrison of the Indiana Territory attacked the Indian villages of the Prophet and Tecumseh in the now famous battle of Tippecanoe, November 7, 1811. Although credited with bringing the Indian tension down for several months, the conflict likely contributed to additional enmity between the Americans and the Indians.

By January 1812, Tecumseh had visited with many tribes promoting his pan-Indianism. Many tribes, including the Sauk, were influenced, but still not ready to declare war on the Americans. The Winnebago actually declared war on the Americans in December 1811 in response to the Tippecanoe conflict. They attacked Dubuque lead mines and killed two men. Beginning in February, a combined force of Winnebago, Sauk, Fox and Potawatomi attacked Fort Madison. They destroyed the boats, cabins and gardens, killed livestock, and forced those outside the fort to seek protection within the fort walls. Fifty soldiers defended the facility from a combined Indian force of 400. The soldiers were successful in defending the fort. Reinforcements arrived three weeks later and the fighting continued. While the siege had ended, attacks continued on those who dared venture far from the protection of the fort.

While the American attempt to take over lead mines operated by the Fox near Dubuque didn't help the relationship with the Sauk and Fox contingency, the January shooting of Sauk Chief Quashquame's brother by Rangers in the area of what is now Oquawka (Yellow Banks), brought tension with the American friendly Sauk contingency. Only through the intervention of Maurice Blondeau, part French and part Indian, did the issue settle in April.

Efforts to make peace with various tribes continued through April 1812. A major peace council was held

at Cahokia on April 16. Representatives from all the major tribes (including the Sauk, Fox, Potawatomi, Kickapoo, Ottawa and Chippewa) attended. Edwards, representing the United States interests and anticipating a possible war with Britain, asked the Indians to remain neutral. Edwards is quoted as saying, "My Children, the British pretend to be your friends, but their object is to get you to fight their battles; and they care not what becomes of you afterwards." He also told the representatives that the United States did not have an interest in acquiring their land. Despite the attacks, Governor Edwards continued to look toward peace, sending Thomas Forsyth, the new Indian Agent, to the Potawatomi Village to meet with Chief Gomo and others. Forsyth reported that there were already 600 warriors in the immediate area of the village and estimated that within ten days the group could consist of up to 1200.

The War Begins

On June 18, 1812, the United States declared war on Great Britain. On June 26, nine tribes were represented at a meeting in Saukenuk (Rock Island). Of the nine tribes, five were in favor of war against the Americans. The Sauk (divided among them with those favoring war following Black Hawk), Fox, and Kaskaskia still preferred peace. Antoine LeClair, working for Forsyth, had reported that the tribes in northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin were just waiting for the British to begin war efforts.

On August 18, 1812, hostilities began when Winnebago's attacked a farm three miles southwest of Fort Dearborn (Chicago), killing two. Fort Dearborn had been constructed in 1804 at the mouth of the Chicago River to replace an old French fort. The post was manned by 75 soldiers. Around the post various settlers and traders had established homes. On August 7, orders were received from Governor Hull, anticipating an Indian attack, to evacuate the fort. John Kinzie, the principal trader and many others objected to the order, but Captain Heald, Commander of the fort, felt compelled to obey. On August 12, Heald in cooperation with the Pottawattamie was set to leave the fort. The Indians would receive the goods stored in the fort and in return the soldiers and settlers would be escorted to Fort Wayne. The evacuation began on August 18 and ended tragically when Indians attacked the evacuees which included women and children. 26 soldiers, 12 militia, all the officers except Heald and Lt. Helm, most of the women, and children were killed. John Kinzie and his family were spared. The situation heated up to such an extent that by late October, Edwards led a force of about 400 men up the trace and attacked the Indians on the Illinois River, killing 20 to 30, and burning a great deal of food and supplies. The exact place that this occurred is in dispute. Most historians claim the attack occurred on the north end of modern Lake Peoria, however, some local writers report that the attack occurred where Beardstown is now located, which would be on the north end of the once much larger Meredosia lake and swamp.

In a detailed letter dated November 18, 1812 to William Eustis, Edwards explained what he had accomplished in regard to the east west fort line in his efforts to protect the Illinois frontier. He wrote that forts were placed one day's ride apart; that each fort was manned by infantry; and that two groups of mounted rangers starting at opposite ends of the fort line would ride to the other end of the fort line, passing each other on the way. The rangers were to keep an eye on Indian activities and report back to the settlements (mainly on the American Bottoms) of any movement of Indians toward the south. The west fort would have been near modern day Marceline, where Bear Creek exits the bluffs. A farmer at that location has reported that people with metal detectors found cannon balls in his field. Edwards reported that it was a day and a half ride from the Mississippi fort to the mouth of the Sangamon. This is a distance of 52 miles. That means that a one-day ride would be about 35 miles, and thus the forts were located about 35 miles apart. He also wrote that the distance from the mouth of the Sangamon to the east end of the fort line was 70 to 100 miles, and that in the middle of that part of the fort line, he built a major supply fort. It is believed that this fort was near modern Elkhart, and that this was the original end point of the Edwards Trace which led up from Fort Russell near Edwardsville, IL. See the reference map for the fort line and likely fort positions.

At the beginning, the War of 1812 posts and war fortifications included forts at present day Fort Madison (Fort Madison), St. Louis (Fort Russell), and Chicago (Fort Dearborn). Other fortifications were also plentiful in the southern Illinois region. William Boline Whiteside's company of Rangers moved between the Mississippi River (Fort Mason, near Hannibal, MO) east to the junction of the Sangamon and Illinois Rivers near Rushville. The remainder of West Central Illinois from the Spoon River to the Rock was patrolled by a company lead by Nathaniel Boone (Daniel Boone's grandson).

1813

With the War effort in the north and east draining supplies, Fort Madison often found itself without adequate provisions. By the summer of 1813, Lt. Hamilton, Fort Commander, warned that unless he received ade-

quate supplies and reinforcement, he would have to abandon the site. On September 5, Winnebago attacked Fort Madison, wounded two infantrymen and stole seven horses. The siege lasted three days, with the Indians succeeding in burning most of the outbuildings and hayfields and killing their cattle. Given the problems, Commanding Officer Lieutenant Thomas Hamilton decided to evacuate the position on November 15. The Fort was burned and abandoned by the soldiers. (Knox) Warriors also harassed Americans at the trading post in Prairie du Chien until the Americans deserted the post. In effect the Sauk were able to close the Mississippi River above the Rock River.

In the spring of 1813 the Indians that escaped from Edwards' October attack, after having spent the winter at Saukenuk (near the mouth of the Rock River) regrouped at the north end of modern Lake Peoria. The only defenders available to Edwards were Whiteside's Rangers and regulars from Fort Russell, Missouri. Edwards proposed to the new Secretary of War, John Armstrong, that forts should be established near Lake Peoria and the mouths of the Wisconsin and Rock Rivers. It was decided to build a fort on Lake Peoria to keep an eye on the growing tension. Governor Howard of Missouri led a group of 1400 men on a ride up the Mississippi from St. Louis to some distance above the lower rapids, probably a bit south of present day Nauvoo, then cross country to the mouth of Spoon River, passing through the middle of McDonough County on the way. Recent archeological digs west of Macomb found Spanish coins (used as tender in 1812) and other artifacts which might support Howards passing through this area. From the mouth of Spoon River, the group ascended the Illinois River to build Fort Clark in modern day Peoria where they met with a group that had already traveled up the Illinois River from St. Louis with some of the materials to build the fort.

By the end of 1813 the Illinois campaign saw most of the friendly Sauk resettled west of the Mississippi, and peace with the Potawatomi due to the new forts on the Illinois River.

1814

In May 1814, the recently appointed Governor of the Missouri Territory, William Clark, decided to send Major Zachary Taylor north on the Mississippi to Prairie du Chien. They reached Prairie du Chien on June 2, 1814. They met little resistance, capturing twenty Winnebago. They began building Fort Shelby on June 6. The arrival of Americans at Prairie du Chien increased the desire of the Indians to side with the British when Tete de Chien, a Winnebago war chief, claimed that Clark had killed 11 Indians in cold blood. Clark's account indicates that the prisoners made an escape and several were wounded and died. At this point in time, the only real remaining protection in the Illinois Territory was stationed at Fort Clark in Peoria with a garrison of 52 men.

On June 28, Major William McKay, of the British Army set out to reclaim Prairie du Chien. As McKay made his way down the Wisconsin River, Winnebago, Menominee and Chippewa joined his force. By the time they reached their destination they were 650 strong, facing a Fort Shelby garrison of 65 backed by a gunboat crew of forty, with one six pound cannon and ten howitzers. Although heavily armed, the British force attacked the gunboat, *Governor Clark*, with such accuracy that the captain of the boat cut cable and headed downriver leaving Fort Shelby to fend for itself. The fort resisted for two days. When the Americans surrendered, McKay provided the captive Americans protection from the Winnebago, who were looking to avenge the alleged slaughter of Indians by Clark.

A relief and planned counterattack was commanded by John Campbell with a large party of Americans on supply barges and three gun boats which traveled upriver from St. Louis. Campbell did not expect problems traveling up the Mississippi. However, he did not know that Black Hawk had returned to the Rock River and Saukenuk. Black Hawk also received word from McKay about the British victory in Prairie du Chien. What transpired next resulted in the loss of twelve men, twenty four wounded, and Campbell's gunboat and a victory for the Sauk. The Sauk attacked Campbell's party near an island just above present day Rock Island. Campbell's forces had to retreat back down the river. Among the casualties were one woman and child who died and one woman who was badly wounded, but lived. The conflict is known today as the Battle of Campbell's Island.

In retaliation, General Howard decided to send a force to attack Saukenuk. Howard ordered Major Zachary Taylor to accomplish this mission. Taylor's force consisted of 335, with only 40 regular army troops, the balance being Rangers and volunteers. He was not aware that the British and Indians had amassed 1,200 warriors and 30 British soldiers. Taylor reached the Rock River area on September 4. On September 5 the Battle of Credit Island, a fierce battle between the Americans and British/Indian parties, commenced. Taylor's force didn't stand much of a chance against the superior forces of the Sauk, Sioux and British. This was the only time in battle that Taylor would retreat. Although the Americans lost at Credit Island, Thomas Forsyth opined that had Taylor not confronted the Sauk in their homeland, they would likely have struck at Fort Clark (Peoria) next. On his return to St. Louis he was also ordered to build a fort at the mouth of the Des Moines River.

In September 1814, Major Zachary Taylor established Fort Johnson (Warsaw) to overlook the mouth of

the Des Moines River where it enters the Mississippi below the rapids, at what is now Keokuk. The fort was designed for monitoring the river location, not for defense. Sauk fired on the soldiers during construction of the fort. The remote location required regular provisioning. General Howard attempted to provide relief for the new fort. However, Indians attacked the provision boat, wounding five Rangers. The fort was abandoned and burned on October 20, less than two months after construction. The abandonment was due to the forts remote location, constant harassment by Sauk Indians, the coming winter and the failure to get supplies.

During the remainder of the war, rangers roamed the land north of the settlement on the American Bottoms all the way up to the Rock River. Gordana Rezab documents one such bit of ranging in her book "Place Names of McDonough County" under the heading of Rapid Ford. She writes, "This was a ford on Troublesome Creek in Lamoine Twp., so named by a party of soldiers during the War of 1812. One of the soldiers, David Bayless, subsequently settled in the township (1885 History, 653). Many of our various nearby Illinois county histories make mention of the rangers passing through their territory.

The End of the War—Not for the Indians

On December 24, 1814, the United States and Great Britain ended the War with the Treaty of Ghent. England signed the Treaty on December 30, 1814, and the United States signed the agreement on February 16, 1815. Word of the peace agreement traveled slowly and the famous Battle of New Orleans was fought January 8, 1815 after the agreement to end the conflict.

As late as April 8, 1815, Captain Bulger, the British Commander at Fort McKay, assured Indians that the British were still fighting the war to protect their Indian allies. Bulger even sent word to the Sauk and other Indian allies to send out war parties against Missouri settlements. Within days of Bulger's orders, The gunboat, *Governor Clark*, reached Saukenuk with news of the Treaty. However, it was too late to recall many of the war parties.

On May 10, 1815, Bulger met with over 800 Indians, including Black Hawk, to explain the terms of the peace treaty. The story says that Black Hawk held up his war belt, which he had received from the British in Canada, and said, "I have fought the Big Knives and will continue to fight them until they are off our lands. Till then, my father, your Red Children cannot be happy."

Peace Commissioners Clark, Edwards and Pierre Chouteau directed twenty-eight tribes to come to Portage de Sioux in July to make peace with the United States. The messenger sent to Saukenuk was killed. Black Hawk led a war party into Missouri, leading to problems in St. Charles, around Fort Howard, and eventually to the famous Battle of the Sinkhole near present day Troy, Missouri.

While the all the tribes signed treaties with the Americans in April 1816, Black Hawk's tribe held out. Finally in May 1816, the British Band (Black Hawks' Sauk tribe) signed the treaty bringing to an end the conflict between the Indians and Americans.

The final act to the Illinois Territory and Sauk Indian War would not be played until 1832 with the Black Hawk War. The suggestion first offered by Governor Edwards that forts should be constructed at the mouths of the Des Moines, Rock and Wisconsin Rivers was given additional consideration. The Americans finally realized that they needed a strong presence in the territory to monitor the Indians, and British and French traders. Trading forts were constructed at Warsaw (Fort Edwards), Rock Island (Fort Armstrong) and Prairie du Chien, (Fort Crawford) for this purpose.

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Randolph House Hotel Threatened Once Again by Allen Nemeec

One of McDonough County's most historic hotels tells a tale of fire, bank failure, Abraham Lincoln, slaves and finally, the worst threat of all, a structurally failing building. A recently acquired copy of a hotel registry of guests (June 5, 1858—October 7, 1859), records the story of early guests in this historic structure. A copy of the hotel guest registry was recently made available to the Western Illinois University Archives from the current owner Pam Schofield of South Carolina. The whereabouts of the other registers remains a mystery.

While the hotel is currently in a state of threatened existence, the history as stated in the 1907 Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and History of McDonough County tells an interesting story.

"The following sketch of the historic Randolph House, erected in Macomb in 1856-57, as copied from the "Macomb Journal" on 1903, and written by the Hon. Alexander McLean, will, no doubt, have an interest for many readers covering the period of early Republican campaigns and the Civil War. It was the temporary resting place of Abraham Lincoln, Senator Trumbull, Governors Yates, Oglesby and Palmer, and many other distinguished citizens of this and other States. Its builder and owner, Hon. William H. Randolph, was a patriotic citizen who lost his life while in the discharge of his duty as Provost Marshal for the McDonough District during the war period.

This noted hotel, situated on the east side of the public square, was for many years recognized as one of the best hostelries in the Military Tract. Part of the lot on which it is erected had previously been occupied by the office of Dr. Charles Hayes, one of the oldest and best known citizens of this county.

The First Fire.—The lower part of the building was filled with hams, bacon and lard. The fire is supposed to have originated by overflow of lard from frying kettles. The bucket brigade did heroic service. ... After superhuman efforts the fire was ultimately extinguished. The citizens generally performed their whole duty, the women particularly helping in passing the buckets, and pumping at the wells, and thus the fire company covered themselves with glory.

First Bank Failure.—After the fire above referred to, the second story of the building was changed to make a banking house, which was the first bank in McDonough County. In 1854 Mr. Randolph, in company with Joseph M. Parkinson, Joseph W. Blount and M. T. Warslow, formed the first banking company and, with a few changes in the firm, continued in business until the fall of 1858, when it, with hundreds of other banks all over the country, had to go into liquidation. So ended the bank in this building.

Building of the Hotel.—In 1856-57 Mr. Randolph decided to build a hotel, which was completed in 1857. It was one of the best houses on the line of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad from Quincy to Chicago, was finished and furnished in the best style of that date and rented to D.C. Flint a gentleman of means from the State of New York. He retired from the house to the farm in 1858. Mr. Randolph then took charge and continued as the landlord for several years. This house has been operated by quite a number of tenants during the passing years of its history, notably Jacob Randolph., A.C. Brooking and Mr. Miller. It may be well to state that the house had many boarders who were well known persons in this community. We recall Jerry Haskins, Joseph Durr, who boarded there from its opening, and Dr. W. O. Blaisdell, who, for over thirty years was a steady guest of that hospitable hotel."

Lincoln's Visit.—The hotel has a political history connected with events before and during the (Civil) war. Many of the leading politicians of this and other States were temporary guests. Abe Lincoln was a guest on two occasions. In September, 1858, Mr. Lincoln, with Medill, Bross and Scripps, had been at a public meeting in Augusta. (*The hotel registry shows Mr. Lincoln checked in on Monday, August 23, 1858 and checked out on Thursday, August 26, 1858, Room 31*). In the afternoon they came to Macomb and met a large number of our citizens. Before bedtime these gentlemen had a private meeting in the hotel, at which were formulated certain questions to be propounded to Senator Douglas at the next joint debate.



Tuesday October 26th 1858

Light Room Pearson	Captn [unclear]	12		
	Gen [unclear]	18		
	Rev [unclear]	23		
	Wm [unclear]	24 & 26		
	Sp [unclear]	29		
	J [unclear]	42		
	P [unclear]	52		
	M [unclear]	34	100 per 10	25
	E [unclear]	31		5.00
	J. Holland Mfg. Co	00	Pair in full	2.00
	A Lincoln	76	ch. L. Club	.. 50
		00		
	Bell Bent	14	Pair in full	1.50
	B. G. Wolf	20		
	Uasque Democrats	22		
L. P. Davis	35	Pair in full for 3 rd	6.00	
	36	Pair in full	1.00	
	43			
	47			

Registry of A. Lincoln, Room 26, Light Room Randolph House Hotel

The next morning after this meeting Mr. Lincoln was out on the porch of the hotel when Mr. McGee, then of Carthage, proposed that Mr. Lincoln should have his ambrotype taken, which, after parley, he agreed to and went across the street to a gallery owned by 'Paint' Pearson, a brother of Hon. I. N. Pearson. A good likeness was taken and the last known of the ambrotype it was in the relic room of the Lincoln monument in Springfield, Ill., with a history of the circumstances under which it was taken pasted on the back of the plate. Mr. Lincoln was again in Macomb and addressed the citizens of this county in September, 1858. (*The hotel registry shows Mr. Lincoln checked in on Saturday, October 23, 1858 and checked out on Tuesday, October 26, 1858, Room 26*). It was the largest political meeting ever held in this county up to that date, and, although it rained heavily nearly all day, the people represented by delegations from all parts of the county, with bands and banners, with whole wagonloads of young ladies representing the various States, together with an escort of ladies and gentlemen of horseback under the marshalship of Dr. T. M. Jordan, were present."

Other noted visitors.— During the campaign of 1860, Hon. Tom Corwin, of Ohio, Senator Trumbull, Governor Palmer, Dick Oglesby, Dick Yates, and many others took part in the campaign in this county, all making their headquarters in the Randolph Hotel." (*Continued on page 9*)

The Last Slaves.—During the war many soldiers who enlisted in various regiments were bountifully entertained at the Randolph House, as it was deemed the headquarters of loyalty to the Government." On the night of December 31, 1862, the eve of President Lincoln's proclamation of freedom for the slaves, "two slaves were removed from the train in Macomb by a white resident, detaining them for the purpose of returning them to their masters. They were taken to the Randolph Hotel and the circumstances detailed to the landlord. Mr. Randolph decided these slaves should be put in a certain room, there to remain until 12 o'clock midnight, when the proclamation would go into effect. This was done in spite of the railing and fury of the person who had taken their passes, but neither threats nor cussing could change the minds of the parties in charge. At 12 o'clock—and a few minutes after for good measure and certainty—the colored men went out free men, with none to molest or make them afraid. These were the last slaves in McDonough County, Ill."

The Randolph House Hotel truly was the hub of Macomb, with its guests and citizens socializing and conducting business during the early part of our city's history. While the building still stands today, the structure continues to deteriorate and the potential loss of



Winding staircase to 3rd floor through 2nd floor north side apartment



Former Randolph Hotel (Sky Light) on 3rd floor

this structure grows each and every day. Left as is the elements of time will continue its gradual deterioration.

President McKinley stops briefly at the Tennessee Railroad Depot

The Village of Tennessee, Illinois was laid out in March of 1854 with the route of the C. B. & Q. Railroad having been determined. During the next two years work along the lines had commenced. The branch of the railroad from Galesburg to Quincy was eventually completed by January 11, 1856.

The first depot in Tennessee, Illinois burned early in the morning around the year 1885. The last depot in Tennessee was then built in its place.

A train bearing President William McKinley was "side tracked" in Tennessee for another train to pass on the main track. The President sent word to the Tennessee station agent that he did not wish for that to happen again on his trip.

The railroad station was no longer used after May 1, 1961.

The depot was advertised for sale in the summer of 1966, purchased early in 1967 by John Dickhut of rural Paloma, and was razed that spring. Information as told by Tom Dorethy of Evanston, Wyoming, former resident of Tennessee, Illinois.



June Celebration honoring Charlie Miller, his building trades students and contractors.

Heritage Days Celebration at the Old Bailey House

A 30th anniversary celebration was a huge success on Saturday afternoon, June 23, 2012 celebrating the beginning of the Old Bailey House as we know it today with the help of Charlie Miller, his students and volunteer contractors.

A walnut plaque was given to each participant to commemorate their efforts in the restoration of the Bailey House.



On left is then President Randy Powell, Kent Slater and Charlie Miller as they sit in the side yard of the Old Bailey House during the celebration.



At right is Charlie Miller and a few of Charlie's building trades students reminiscing about their past experience and memories some 30 years ago.



Witnesses in attendance included Charlie's daughters, Mayor Mike Inman, and various trades students families.



Thank you again for helping make the Bailey House what it is today.

McDonough County Historic Preservation Society
Old Bailey House
100 South Campbell St.
PO Box 266
Macomb, IL 61455

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Call Susan at 309-833-1727 to book your event.

