

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

Non Profit
 Organization
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Supporting Our Historic Home

The Old Bailey House has been a landmark feature in the Macomb community and McDonough County for decades. In 1986 the newly formed McDonough County Historic Preservation Society was granted title to the property by Mr. William Collins. The Society, in partnership with the West Central Illinois Trades Cooperative rehabilitated the house. The house has since been used for a variety of functions, serving McDonough County. These activities have included various events and group functions. In addition, the Society rented office space on the second floor to the Illinois Agriculture Leadership Foundation (IALF) and office spaces to other organizations and law firms.

Over the years the lease of office space has declined, leaving the Society two primary renters: the IALF and a law practice. In May of this year these two renter also left the building, with the IALF moving its operation to Bloomington/Normal. Through various advertisements, the Society Board has attempted to attract a new tenant, but without success.

The loss of renters has become a major financial burden to the Society which in addition to recurring costs and maintenance has had several major cash outflows this past year. Over the past several years the home has been painted, a new roof added, porches repaired, and a handicapped lift installed. The Society has long term plans to remodel the restroom facilities so that they are handicapped accessible. While the Society has benefited from the generous discounts and gifts from local businesses, including but not limited to EPH, Arnold Brothers, and David Pyles, the cost of maintenance of HVAC systems, copper pipe replacement, and porch repair have not been cheap.

We thank the community and our membership for their continuing support of this historic home. However, without additional generous donations, new renters, or some other type of money stream, we risk the possibility of losing this historic home. We are asking everyone to help us find a new renter!

If interested in more information for an article or human interest piece on the Old Bailey House, contact Bob Fischer – rjfish@macomb.com or call 309.259-0360.

Ideal Rental Space



Rent a spacious 2nd floor office suite at the historic Old Bailey House just off the Macomb Square.

The space includes the following: executive office, supply room, break room, reception area, two secretarial offices and a spacious bathroom.

Total square footage approximates 1,063. The renter also has access to the main floor meeting spaces and a full kitchen. The house is handicapped accessible on the main floor.

The house also offers four additional offices, three reception areas and washroom in the lower level of the house. The area has housed law offices and a pre-k office operation. These offices can be modified for your special use.

Internet is available in all offices. Rent is negotiable with the renter paying HVAC. Cleaning services are provided by the renter. A full time caretaker lives in the third floor area.

**For more information or to view,
 Susan Welch, caretaker at 309-318-0485**

**Spacious 2nd floor office suite for rent at the historic
 Old Bailey House just off the Macomb Square.**
 Includes the following: executive office, supply room, break room, reception area, two secretarial offices and a
 spacious bathroom. Approximately 1,063 square feet.
 Internet is available in all offices.
 Rent is negotiable with the renter paying HVAC.
 Water and waste pickup is provided.
 Renter responsible for cleaning service. A full time caretaker lives in the third floor area.

*Business Suite and Offices
 available at
 Old Bailey House*

From the President

Greetings members,

We had another busy year in 2015 with the Bailey House again being our major focus. The house was acquired by the Preservation Society 30 years ago and has needed continuous maintenance over those years.

In 2015 the house had a new heating and air conditioning unit installed for the second floor, landscaping was done to prevent rain water from leaking into the basement, the kitchen porch was rehabilitated, leaky copper pipes were repaired and a bat problem was professionally taken care of.

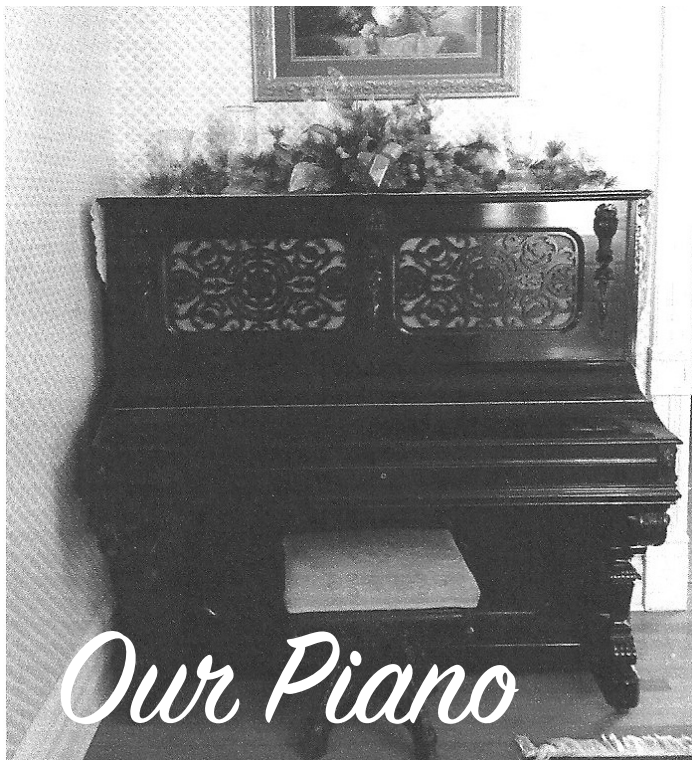
Sadly the Preservation Society lost two long time renters in 2015 as the Glidden Law Firm left and a 25 plus year relationship with the Agricultural Leadership Foundation offices ended as they moved.

On the bright side, the house was handicapped accessible, by way of a lift, for the first time in 2015 and enjoyed continued use by many in the community as a meeting place for family gatherings, clubs and other private organizations.

In 2016 we hope to replace the HVAC on the third floor, paint the south side of the house and upgrade the kitchen appliances, the first floor restrooms and the outdoor lighting.

I would like to thank everyone who contributed monetary donations or discounted services toward the many projects completed at the home in 2015.

Ian Fischer,
Board President



Our Piano

This piano was donated to the Old Bailey House by Dr. William Keever and Pat Keever, January 2013. The Keever's purchased the piano in 1992 from Mrs. Mary Best. Mrs. Best purchased the piano in 1932 from the auction of property owned by Dr. and Mrs. Smith. Mrs. Smith purchased the new piano in 1899.

The newspaper photo is that of Dr. Smith's home and office.

**McDonough County Historic Preservation Society
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Become a member today!

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It is distributed without charge to the recipient.

www.baileyhouse.jimdo.com

The Eagle and the Journal: A Brief History

By Robert Welch

The sesquicentennial anniversary of the Civil War brought forth a bevy of events and publications meant to commemorate one of the most important eras in American history. The New York Times created "Disunion," a special edition of their "Opinionator" blog series, which featured modern historians speaking to the important cultural aspects and interpretations of the war, as well as the best of original content from the original content generated a year and a half before. Living historians, the National Park Service, and museums across the nation came together as well to create commemorative events accessible to local populations. Perhaps the easiest local associations created during the years approaching the anniversary were the Civil War round tables, meetings and book discussions by interested people meeting in towns across America.

I moved to Macomb in the summer of 2009 when my wife took a job at Western Illinois University; I would be finishing my PhD work at Iowa State University remotely. I was lucky enough to become involved in the West-Central Illinois Civil War Round Table, which met monthly in Macomb and brought together a wonderful assortment of people to talk and learn about the Civil War in all its aspects. As the anniversary of the election of Abraham Lincoln approached, Marty Fischer, an acquaintance from the Macomb round table, sent me an email asking if I would be interested in doing some local newspaper research. Some interest had been expressed about connecting Macomb with the events that tore the nation asunder. I agreed to meet with Marty and the editor of the McDonough Voice. A week prior to the meeting I took my trip to the Western Illinois University Library's Special Collections department and transcribed a series of articles for a potential column. The meeting went well, and the first edition of "Macomb and the Civil War" was published in the McDonough Voice on October 27, 2010. The electronic blog version came about within a week or two after initial publication.

Marty and I weren't sure what we might find in the pages of the two newspapers printed in Macomb during the war years. In the pages of the Macomb Eagle (Democratic) and the Macomb Journal (Republican), I found a national crisis played out on a local level in minute detail. I quickly developed criteria for selecting my articles. I wanted to use as much locally-produced writing as possible, not news copied from other papers or carried on the telegraph (when it finally came to town in 1863.)

Five years brought many changes to the project. The McDonough Voice stopped carrying the column in the spring of 2012. The blog expanded considerably, and I carried a large selection of advertisements and stories. I made a point to include every letter home written by a soldier from McDonough County and printed in either of the papers. I was able to witness, almost first-hand, a bitter political clash in the county over topics from why the war was fought to emancipation, the end of slavery, and the (slowly) growing population of African-Americans in Macomb.

I'm grateful to Marty for that conversation just over five years ago. Without his encouragement, "The Eagle and the Journal" would not have come to fruition. There is a lot of work left to do with the project. The blog will remain active and accessible to all on the Internet. I encourage you to visit www.eagleandjournal.wordpress.com and experience first-hand the Civil War as experienced in Macomb.

This article was edited from its original form due to space constraints.

McDonough County Historic Preservation Society Membership Application

Name _____

Address _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Classification _____ Amt. Enclosed _____

Signature _____

I am interested in these activities: Board Member Landscaping Writing history of Bailey House
 Maintenance Newsletter

Return Application and check to:
 McDonough County Historic Preservation Society Box 266, 100 S. Campbell St., Macomb, IL 61455

Membership Levels

Individual\$15+
 Family.....\$25+
 Sponsor\$50+
 Silver Patron \$100+
 Golden Patron..... \$500+
 Benefactor.....\$1000+

Capital Improvement

\$ _____