



**My Old House: Searching for Your Home's Story...**

**Print Sources (ALPL Holdings)**

Green, Betsy J. *Discovering the History of Your House and Your Neighborhood*. Santa Monica, California: Santa Monica Press, 2002. **EZG.6 G7952d**

Illinois Historic Landmarks Survey. *Inventory of Historic Landmarks in... County; Interim Report*. Benton, Illinois: 1973. **WIY I29ir**

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency. "The National Register of Historic Places in Illinois: A Comprehensive List through June 21, 2001." *Illinois Preservation Series*, Number 22. **At reference desk**

Illinois Historic Structures Survey. *Inventory of Architecture Before W.W. II in ... County; Interim Report*. [Chicago]: 1973. **WF896 I29ir**

Light, Sally. *House Histories: a Guide to Tracing the Genealogy of Your Home*. Spencertown, New York: Golden Hill Press, 1989. **EZG.6 L723h**

Trindle, Cathy Madden. "Building a House History." *Pathways to the Heartland*, 2011. **At reference desk**

**City and County Directories, Gazetteers**

**County Histories, Historical Atlases, and Plat Books**

**Example:**

Boyd, Gregory A. "Family Maps of Adams County, Illinois." Norman, Oklahoma: Arphax Publishing, 2007. **GZ896 A B789f 2007**

Conzen, Michael P., James R. Akerman, and David T. Thackery. *Illinois County Bibliography and Union List*. Springfield, IL: Illinois Cooperative Collection Management Coordinating Committee, 1991 **At reference desk**

**As of 3/20/13, the ALPL holds histories, atlases, and Plat books on most Illinois counties. The Boyd titles for approximately half of the counties in the states have been added to the collection.**

**Newspapers on Microfilm**



Newspaper coverage of events such as property sales, construction, published dates related to estates and sales, building permits, etc., may be useful. You will need approximate dates of activity to make this resource meaningful.

**Print Sources** (The title below is available in the listed local libraries.)

Howe, Barbara J. *Houses and Homes: Exploring Their History*.  
Nashville, Tenn.: American Association for State and Local History, 1987

*Illinois State Museum: 973 HOWE*

*Vespasian Warner PLD: 907.2 H*

*Lincoln Library: 973.072 HOU*

### **Electronic Sources**

#### [Ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com)

(Information from Ancestry Library Edition that will be helpful includes population schedules of the U.S. Census. Street names and/or house numbers begin appear on the census in 1900, while post offices, townships, ward/district information may appear as early as 1850. Information from the following types of data may be located on this website as well.)

- Agricultural Census schedules
- Digital land ownership atlases and maps
- City directories that have been digitally archived

Bureau of Land Management, Government Land Office Records:

<http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov/>

Digital Sanborn Maps:

<http://sanborn.umi.com/>

HAARGIS:

<http://gis.hpa.state.il.us/hargis/>

Historic Map Works: Residential Genealogy:

<http://www.historicmapworks.com/>

Illinois State Archives:

<http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/archives/home.html>



(The databases and online resources below are some of the best choices on this website to consult when looking for information on properties and real estate.)

--Public Domain Land Tract Sales Database

--Federal Township Plats of Illinois

--County Fact Sheets

(The Illinois State Archives website is also a good place to begin looking for information about the following types of records, but you will probably need to seek additional information through local sources or the Regional Archives Depositories as well.)

--Public Land Grants

--Deeds

--Wills and/or Probate

--Tax Assessments

Library of Congress maps:

<http://www.loc.gov/topics/maps.php>

Pettis, Emily. *A Model for Identifying and Evaluating the Historic Significance of Post-World War II Housing*. Washington, D.C: Transportation Research Board, 2012.

[http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nchrp/nchrp\\_rpt\\_723.pdf](http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/nchrp/nchrp_rpt_723.pdf)

[propertyshark.com](http://propertyshark.com)

- lists all sales of a property for a certain number of years.

U.S. Geological Survey historical topographical maps:

<http://www.usgs.gov/pubprod/>

### **Resources for Assistance with Restoration of Historic Buildings**

Fever River Research Firm: <http://www.illinoisarchaeology.com/>

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, Division of Preservation Services:

<http://www.illinoishistory.gov/lib/default.htm>



Landmarks Illinois: <http://www.landmarks.org/>

### **House & Building Plans Sources**

Atwood, Daniel T. *Modern American Homesteads*.  
New York: A.J. Bicknell, 1876. **WIS A887m**

Badger, David Alan. *Carlinville of Illinois*.  
Havana, Illinois: D.A. Badger, 1987. **WIS896 C28 B135c**

Bicknell, A. J. Detail, *Cottage, and Constructive Architecture...Piazzas...*  
New York: A.J. Bicknell & Co, 1873. **WIS B583d**

*A Book of Plans*. Chicago: Chicago House Wrecking Co., 1910. **HLXM S439t**.

Culbertson, Margaret. *American Home Design: an Index to Popular and Trade Periodicals, 1850-1915*. Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 1994.  
**WIA83.2 C976a**

*Illinois Issues*, Jan 1990 (Capitol Plans). Springfield: Sangamon State University.  
**F896.7 I2962**

*The Radford American Homes; 100 House Plans*.  
Riverside, IL: Radford Architectural Co., 1903. **WIS83 R128r**

Ranlett, William H. *The Architect...Details...*  
New York: Dewitt & Davenport, 1847. **WIS R211a**

Thornton, Rosemary Fuller. *The Houses that Sears Built...Sears Catalog Homes*.  
Alton, IL: Gentle Beam Publications, 2002. **HLXM S439t**

Vaux, Calvert. *Villas and Cottages... United States*.  
New York: Harper & Brothers, publishers, 1857. **WIS V384v**

Woodward, George E. *Woodward's Architecture, Landscape Gardening, and Rural Art*.  
New York: G.E. & F.W. Woodward, 1829-1905. **WIS W899**

Woodward, George E. *Woodward's Country Homes*. .  
New York: G.E. & F.W. Woodward, 1866. **WIU W899c**



Woodward, George. *Woodward's National Architect...Design*.  
New York: G.E. Woodward, 1869. **WIS W899w**

Wheeler, Gervase. *Homes for the People in Suburb and Country*.  
New York: Arno Press, 1855.

Wheeler, Gervase. *Rural Homes, or, Sketches of Houses Suited to American Country Life*. Auburn: Alden and Beardsley, 1855.

### **House Plans & Research Sources-Chicago**

*American Institute of Architects Guide to Chicago*.  
New York: Harcourt Press, 1993. **WF896 C53 A512g 1993**

*Chicago Architecture Annual*. Chicago, IL: Metropolitan Press Publications, 1985.  
**F89 C53.7 M594a**

Commission on Chicago Landmarks. *Your House Has a History*. Chicago: City of Chicago, 1998, 2003. **At reference desk**

Condit, Carl W. and Hugh Dalziel Duncan. *Chicago's Famous Buildings: A Photographic Guide to the City's Architectural Landmarks and Other Notable Buildings*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1980. **WF896 C53 S571c 1980**

Cohen, Stuart E. *Chicago Architects... Weese*.  
Chicago: Swallow Press, 1976. **WF896 C53 C678c (oversized)**

Hasbrouck, Wilbert R. *The Chicago Architectural Club: Prelude to the Modern*.  
New York, N.Y.: Monacelli Press, 2005. **WF896 C53 H344c**

Illinois Society of Architects. *Monthly Bulletin*. Chicago. **F896.9 i294b**

Peisch, Mark L. *The Chicago School of Architecture; Early Followers of Sullivan and Wright*. New York: Random House, 1964. **WF896 C53 P379c**

### **Illinois Military Tract**

Carlson, Theodore. *The Illinois Military Tract: a Study of Land Occupation, Utilization and Tenure*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1951. **IX896 UI.7s v. 32, pt. 2**



*Illinois Intelligencer—Extra. List of Lands Entered on the Books of the Auditor of Public Accounts, for the State of Illinois, Subject to Taxation for the Several Years Set Forth (with Interest and Costs) and upon which the Taxes Have Not Been Paid...Lands in the Military Tract...in the Name of the Original Patentees....* [Vandalia, Illinois, 1828-1831]. **HT896 I298L Vault Oversize Flat Shelf**

Taylor, F. *A Sketch of the Military Bounty Tract of Illinois, descriptive of Its Unequalled Fertility of Soil—Superior Inducements for an Emigrant's Location....* Philadelphia: Ashmead & Co., 1839. **F896 T241s Vault**

Van Zandt, Nicholas Biddle. *A Full Description of the Soil, Water, Timber, and Prairies of Each Lot, or Quarter Section of the Military Lands Between the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers.* Washington, [D.C.]: P. Force, 1818. **G896 V285f Vault**

*Whig and Intelligencer—Extra. List of Lands Entered on the Books of the Auditor of Public Accounts, for the State of Illinois, Subject to Taxation for the Several Years Set Forth (with Interest and Costs) and upon which the Taxes Have Not Been Paid...lands in the Military Tract...in the Name of the Original Patentees....* [Vandalia, Illinois, 1832]. **HT896 I298Lw Vault OverSize Flat Shelf**

Gwen Podeschi & Caitlin Crane  
April, 2013