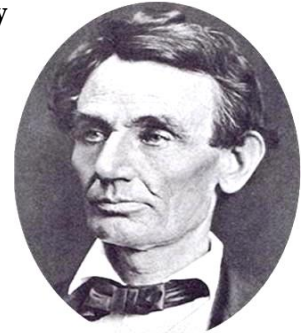


Roots & Branches

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Web Pages: <http://www.logancoil-genhist.org> & <http://www.rootsweb.com/~illcghs>

E-mail address logancoil1839@gmail.com Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LoganCountyIllinois>

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Winter 2024: January, February, March

Meeting Schedule: All program meetings are at 6:30 pm on the third Monday of each month. The speakers are first on the agenda. We look forward to seeing you. Please call, Vice-President and Program Chairperson, with suggestions for programs at 217-732-3200.

Jan. 15: Chronology – Diane Osborn

Feb. 19: Quilts on Display – Diane Osborn

Mar. 18: Pam Moriearty: Hidden Underground Geographical Features

Call for Article Submissions

Members and readers who have a genealogical or historical story related to Logan County to tell can do so through the Roots & Branches. Stories can be submitted in writing or by email. These stories will provide a variety. **Bill Donath**, Editor

Officers for 2024-2025

President:	Bill Donath	Corresponding Secretary:	JoAnne Marlin
Vice President:	Diane Osborn	Board Member:	Tom Larson
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Holiday Closings

The Logan County Genealogical & Historical Society research center will be closed for the following holidays: **New Year’s Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day,**

Veteran’s Day, Thanksgiving and the day after, **Christmas Eve Day, and Christmas Day.** In the event any of the holidays falls on a Friday, the center will also be closed the following Saturday.

LCGHS Presence on Youtube - Updated.

LCGHS has the following videos on Youtube. The videos are listed in the order in which they were posted. Youtube seems to present them in random order. Sometimes the sequence is important. Some videos are informative, some are instructional, and some are just fun. If you are reading this on a computer, just click on the link. Future R&B's will have a short update on the videos posted since the previous R&B. Click here to go there. <https://www.youtube.com/@logancoil1839>

Civil War Statue #1

<https://youtu.be/Cktlz-yCxa4>

Civil War Statue #2

<https://youtu.be/jllefelAxD4>

Civil War Statue #3

<https://youtu.be/VVIXhoOhRZg>

Civil War Statue #4

<https://youtu.be/2p6io1-ZRGg>

Atlanta Giants Museum

<https://youtu.be/MV7Uhl6-GUw>

Zura Burns Murder, 1883

<https://youtu.be/d66F-xXN2kA>

Since the court house restoration project had been ongoing, we thought it might be interesting to our members to present the history of the process that lead up to the building of the present court house.

Vote Yes Nov. 4th for the New Court House.



Lincoln Semi-Weekly Courier, Lincoln, IL, Oct. 31, 1902, p2.

Remember to Renew Your Membership in LCGHS

Board of Supervisors Ratified the Vote for the New Court House.

Lincoln Semi-Weekly Courier, Lincoln, IL Dec. 02, 1902, p6.

“The Following Certificate of the County Clerk was presented and read and on motion of Mr. Hays was accepted and ordered filed and recorded.

“State of Illinois, Logan County – ss. To the December meeting of the Board of Supervisors, 1902.

“To the Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board of Supervisors of Logan County. I, **X. F. Beidler** County Clerk of the County of Logan,

aforsaid, hereby certify that on Tuesday, November 4th, 1902, in the County of Logan, aforsaid, the vote on the proposition of levying an additional tax to build a court house was a follows.

“For additional tax received thirty-five hundred forty-one votes. Against additional tax twenty-one hundred eighty-two votes. And that the majority for additional tax is thirteen hundred fifty-nine as the same appears from the returns of the said election now filed in my office.

“Witness my hand and official seal this 29th day of November, A. D. 1902.

“**X. F. Beidler**, County Clerk.

“Resolution.

“Whereas. At a general election for county officers held November 4, 1902, the proposition of authorizing an additional tax on the taxable property of Logan Cauty, Illinois, for the purpose of constructing and furnishing a new court house for said, county, and whereas a majority of the votes cast upon said proposition where in favor of said additional tax and this board had caused such additional tax to be levied and collected in accordance therewith; therefore, be it

“Resolved. That the Chairman of the Board be and is hereby directed to appoint a special committee of three members who shall be known and designated as the Court House Building Committee, and that the said committee when so appointed is hereby authorized and empowered to visit and inspect as soon as practicable, recently erected court houses in surrounding counties; to investigate and secure plans and specifications for the proposed new court house on a basis not to exceed an estimated cost of \$125,000, and to submit, with its recommendations thereon, such plans and specifications. With the names of the

architects furnishing the same, to this Board for approval and final action, either at the next regular session or at a special session of the Board or at a special session of the Board called for that purpose.

“Resolved. That said committee is further instructed whenever in their judgment it be timely to advertise for bids and sell and dispose of the present court house building to the highest responsible bidder and to procure suitable rooms elsewhere for the county officers and records and a suitable court room for the Transaction of the county and court business during the erection of the new court house. **H. P. Purviance.**

“**Mr. Hays** moved to amend the above resolution so as to read five members on the committee instead of three; motion carried.

“The chairman appointed the following members on the Court House Building Committee, in pursuance to the resolution passes at this meeting, namely,

“Messers. **H. P. Purviance, O. M. Kiest, J. C. England, E. B. Nicholson and Patrick Ryan.**”

Court House Committee Adjourns.

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois, Jan. 28, 1903, p2

“Late Tuesday afternoon the court house committee of the board of supervisors adjourned until 10 o'clock Friday morning, when the tiresome work will be resumed. Out of the twelve plans submitted all but three have now been rejected. The three Architects who still have a

show to have their plans accepted are **J. W. Royer** of Urbana, **J. M. Deal** of Lincoln and **George H Miller** of Bloomington. If possible, at the meeting of the committee Friday morning the plans of one of these three architects will be adopted.”

New Court House Plans Adopted.

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois, Jan. 30, 1903.

“**Classic Style of Architecture and Resident Architect Favored by the Building Committee.**

“**Difficult to Make a Decision.**

“**Building to be Constructed Within Limit of One Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars – Bonds to be Given That Such Will be Done.**

“Architect **James Deal** of Lincoln won the prize. His plans for the construction of a new court house were adopted late Friday night. It was a

close contest up to the very last, but after a hard sprint the local man was allowed to deliver the goods. Mr. Deal had two rivals – Messrs., Miller

of Bloomington and Royer of Champaign, and the plans submitted by this trio embodied so many attractive features that a choice was difficult.

“There was an unusual amount of interest taken by business and professional men in the proceedings Friday. The building committee kept open house part of the day, and there was a stream of visitors anxious to see the drawing, and the three sets were frequently complimented. At about 4 o’clock the committee closed their doors and got down to the business of picking the winner. The respective merits of each man’s work was canvassed thoroughly and at length. At 5:30 no decision had been reached and an adjournment was taken for supper. At 6:30 the session reconvened, and the matter was again sifted. The committee worked slowly and carefully, resolved to show no partiality. It was 11 o’clock when the ballot was announced, and James Deal declared the lucky candidate.

“A sight of relief and thankfulness broke from the large crowd in **Sheriff White**’s office, which had waited to hear the returns. Mr. Deal’s friends were profuse in congratulations.

“The building committee was composed of Messrs. **Purviance, Nicholson, Ryan, England** and **Kiest**. A meeting of the board of supervisors will be held next Thursday, February 5, when the committee’s report will be read before the county legislature and probably ratified.

“The feeling is that the committee had acted fairly, and the best man had won. And there was the additional pleasure in knowing that the winner was a fellow citizen.

“It is hoped to get the building under way by early spring, but at the same time those in charge of the construction do not propose to let haste override fitness and durability. They intend to erect a court house that shall meet all requirements

from a practical point of view and be a source of pride to the citizens of Logan county, as well as a monument to progress and enterprise.

“Sketch of the Plans.

“Architect Deal’s drawings provide for a structure 120 feet square, with sub-basement, and three stories, surmounted by a dome over a hundred feet high. Two stairways ascend from the basement to the top and an elevator will carry passengers the entire distance. On the first floor will be located rooms for the superintendent of schools, board of supervisors, master in chancery, a women’s public waiting room, surveyor’s office and Gand Army of the Republic room. Two corridors run the length of the building to the four entrances.

“On the second-floor provision has been made for the county clerk, county courtroom and judges office. All these chambers are arranged with an eye to convenience, as well as comfort. In the clerk’s room, for instance, the force of workers will be closeted away from interruption by visitors, and advantage adding considerable pleasure to their daily existence.

“The third floor has rooms for the state attorney and other lawyers, grand jury and petit jury in separate apartments, stenographers’ office, make witness and female witness rooms, connecting directly with the circuit court room, which is 41x87 feet. A library will be placed on this floor.

“The large dome will be of glass and a light well through the center of the building adds much to the practical value of the plans. The new court house will represent the classic style of architecture and will be built of white stone and probably trimmed in red, making according to specifications furnished, a modern, commodious, handsome and durable public buildings.”

Court House Plum Soon To Be Given Out.

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois, Jan. 30, 1965, p8

“Committee Has Sifted the Matter Thoroughly Before Deciding Winner.

“The building committee from the board of supervisors deliberated behind closed doors Friday as to the respective merits of three sets of plans submitted. One of these was prepared by **James Deal**, the local architect. It was understood during the afternoon that the Lincoln man had a shade of

preference, but the committeemen were in doubt as to his ability to have a court house constructed according to his plans and come within the \$125,000 specified. In fact, the same fear prevailed regarding the drawings of all three. There was a prolonged discussion over the

different phases of the subject, and it was suggested that the architect who secured the plum be bonded so that he would be compelled to come

within the money. At 3:45 o'clock this committee got down to actual business and prepared to ballot on the candidates."

Supervisors Ratify Action Of Committee.

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois, Feb. 5, 1903, p2

"Motion Passed Covering Points of Procedure with Plans for the new Court House.

"At a special meeting of the board of supervisors, held on Thursday, the action of the building committee in selecting Architect Deal's plans for the new court house was ratified.

"Supervisor **A. T. Hays** offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted:

"Resolved, That the report of said committee be adopted and its actions in said matter be ratified and approved.

"Resolved, That the said committee be and is here by authorized and empowered by this board to enter into a contract or agreement with Architect **J. M. Deal** of Lincoln, Ill., to furnish plans, drawings and specifications of the proposed new court house to be erected in this county and a supervise the construction of the same upon such terms, subject to such conditions and requirements and with such limitations and qualifications as the said committee may deem right to protect the interests of the county and the taxpayers thereof, it being understood that no contract shall be in force or binding as between this board or Logan county and the said architect until said architect has

signed a contract with the said committee upon the terms and conditions which the said committee shall deem right to have incorporated in the said contract.

"Resolved, that the said committee is empowered by this board to secure the services of some disinterested architect or other competent person to examine and inspect the plans and specifications of the said Deal with view to verifying the practicability of the same, or for the purpose of improving or perfecting the general details, if such revision is needed.

"Resolved, That the said committee is hereby authorized and empowered, after entering into a contract with the said architect, to proceed without delay to advertise for bids for the construction the proposed new court house according to the plans and specifications agreed upon by the said committee and said architect.

"On motion the board adjourned to the next regular meeting in March, or subject to the chairman's call for a special meeting."

Plans for Court House

Lincoln, Ill., Dec. 23, 1902

"The court house building committee of the board of supervisors of Logan County, Illinois, hereby (unreadable section) specifications and estimates of the cost of building a modern, fire-proof court house for the said county, up to the hour of 2 o'clock p. m. January 26, 1903.

"The building is to be placed in the center of a level block of ground about 320 feet square, to be provided with four front entrances (all four to be alike), and to cost, including the plumbing, wiring for electric lights and fan system, wiring for inter-communication system of telephones, piping

for gas, interior piping and apparatus for heating, and decorations, not to exceed \$125,000.

"It is proposed to heat the building by steam, the boilers to be located on the county jail lot, one block away, but the heating plant need not be considered in the estimates and plans submitted, except as to such piping, plumbing and heating apparatus necessary in the court house building itself.

"The plans and estimates should include sufficient burglar and fire-proof vaults to preserve all county, records, and to include rooms and offices, public and private, for all

county officers, and such other rooms and conveniences as are required or are suitable to a court house in a county with a population of 35,000 and having nineteen supervisors. It is also suggested that the plans and estimates include a G. A. R. memorial room, a ladies' waiting room on the ground floor, public water closets and lavatories, a modern passenger elevator, and a full and complete system of ventilation and heating for the building (the later not to include boiler, stack or any part of the heating plant outside of the court house building itself).

"All plans should consist of a subbasement or cellar plan, a ground floor plan, a second-floor plan, a third-floor plan, a roof plan, a longitudinal section, elevation to illustrate the fronts and one perspective view of the entire building. All drawings should be of India ink, on a scale of one-eighth inch to the foot,

mounted on heavy card board, without frames, and no coloring to be used in any drawing.

"All plans and estimates must be governed by, be based upon and be consistent with the proposed cost price above stated, at the present prices of materials and labor. The committee hereby reserves the right to reject any or all plans submitted, without compensation therefore, and may require a bond for the architect whose plans are adopted. No plans adopted will be paid for until the committee are able to let the contract for the construction of the building within the estimated cost made by the architect whose plans have been adopted.

"**H. P. Purviance**, Chairman.

"**O. M. Kiest**, Secretary,

"**J. C. England**,

"**E. B. Nicholson**,

"**Patrick Ryan**,

"Building Committee,

Resolutions.

"The following resolutions were presented and read:

"Whereas, The court house building committee of this board has submitted in full its report of its acts and doings in the matter of securing plans and specifications for the construction of the proposed new court house to be erected in Logan county and has accompanied said report with certain recommendations of a timely and important nature, with reference thereto; therefore be it.

"Resolved. That the report of the said committee be adopted and its actions in said matters be ratified and approved.

"Resolved, second. That the said committee be and is hereby authorized and empowered by this board to enter into a contract or agreement with Architect **J. M. Deal** of Lincoln, Illinois, to furnish the plans, drawings and specifications of the proposed new court house to be erected in this county and to supervise the construction of the same, upon such terms, subject to such conditions

and requirements and with such limitations and qualifications as the said committee may deem necessary and right to protect the interests of the county and the taxpayers thereof, it being understood that in empowering and authorizing the said committee to enter into said contract with the said architect, no contract shall be in force or binding as far as this board or the county of Logan, Illinois, is concerned as between this board or said county and the said architect until the said architect has signed a contract with the said committee, upon the terms and subject to the conditions and requirements which the said committee shall deem necessary and proper to have incorporated in said contract.

"Resolved, further. That the said committee be and hereby authorized and empowered by this board to secure, either before or after entering into a contract with the said Deal, the services of some disinterested architect or other competent person to

examine and inspect the plans and specifications of the said Deal, with a view to verifying the practicability of the same or for the purpose of improving or perfecting the general details and arrangements, if in the judgment of said committee such revision be needed.

“Resolved. That the committee be and is hereby further authorized and empowered by this board, after entering into a contract with the said architect, to proceed without delay to advertise for bids for the construction of the proposed new court house according to the plans and specifications agreed upon between

the said committee and the said architect; to receive, open and pass upon all such bids; and to let the contract and enter into an agreement, for and in behalf of this board and the county of Logan, state of Illinois, with any contractor or contractors, for the construction of the said new court house and for furnishing the materials for the same, according to the plans and specifications and upon such terms and conditions and with such requirements and limitations as the said committee may deem wise, prudent and right.

“**A. T. Hayes.**

An Auction Sale of Public Property

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois, April 1, 1903

“The Old Court House and Furniture Are Hereby Advertised for Sale.

“The court house building committee hereby asks for bids for purchase and removal of the old court house, which is to be torn down and removed from the ground in twenty (20) days from the time contract or sale is made. The committee reserves all the furniture and fixtures that are now in the court house.

“All bids must be in the hands of the committee with ten (10) days from March 26, 1903. The bids will be opened April 6, 1903, at 1 o’clock p. m.

“Court House Building Committee.

“The Court House Building Committee will sell on April 6, 1903, at 1 o’clock p. m. the following articles.

“Eight Oak heating stoves.

“One base burner.

“Twenty-five wood benches.

“Two clocks.

“And other articles too numerous to mention.

“These articles will be sold to highest bidder at the front door of the court house.

“All bids to be filed with **X. F. Beilder**, county clerk.

“Court House Building Committee.

Court House Sale Begun Monday Afternoon

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois, April 6, 1903

Furniture and Fixtures Not Needed Are First Disposed of at Small Prices

“A crowd of men assembled in the court house square Monday afternoon to attend the sale of the furniture and fixtures in the county buildings preparatory to the destruction of the structures to make room for a magnificent new building. The stoves, benches, clocks and other articles not needed were sold at auction.

“As only two bids were filed for the court house the act of disposing of it was postponed until 5 p.m.

“In the group of spectators awaiting the sale were many gray beards, who regretted the hour and arrived for the destruction of the familiar, old object, which they have been accustomed to looking at since boyhood days. There were young men in the crowd who regarded the old structure with respect akin to reverence, because it had sheltered their fathers in the day gone.

“Sentiment, however, is powerless to retard progress, The times will that the old structure, like

people, has to give way for more modern structures.”

Notice to Public Building Contractors

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois, April 14, 1903.

Bids for the Construction of Logan Counties New Court House Are Solicited.

“Sealed proposals will be received at the office of the County Clerk of Logan county, Illinois, at Lincoln, Illinois, up to and not later than 1 o’clock p. m. Monday, May 11, 1903, for the construction , furnishing of all labor and materials and completion of a new court house for said county, to be built at Lincoln, Illinois, in accordance with and as the same are shown by the plans, drawings and specifications for the same prepared by **J. M. Deal**, architect, Lincoln, Illinois, copies of which are on file and may be seen at the office of the county clerk of said county at Lincoln, Illinois, or at the office of said architect on and after April 20, 1903.

“Blue prints of plans and printed copies of specification will be furnished prospective bidders on application to the county clerk of said county and a deposit of \$25.00 with said clerk, deposit to be returned when prints and specifications are returned to the said clerk.

“Bids must be made both to exclude and include the tearing down and removal of the present old court house, to bids being thus required, and otherwise all bids being thus required, and otherwise all bids to be upon the construction and completion in its entirety.

“Each contactor submitting a bid or proposal shall submit with the same a certified check drawn on a solvent National bank for a sum of five percent of the amount of his bid or proposal, payable to the county treasurer of said county, the

same to be forfeited to the court house building fund of said county as liquidated damages if the bid submitted by the contractor is accepted and he fails or refuses, withing ten days after the contract is awarded, to enter into a properly written contract according to his bid and to furnish and deliver a satisfactory bod in a sum equal to fifty percent if the amount of his contract said bond being executed by a surety company, satisfactory to the court house building committee, or by local or other sureties approved by said committee, the form of the contract and bond to be approved by the said committee. Checks of unsuccessful competitors will be returned within ten days after the contract is awarded. No contract will be accepted until the bond above mentioned is delivered as approved.

“The court house building committee reserves the right to reject any and all bids or proposals and to waive any defect or informality in any bid, if the so deem it best for the interests of the county.

“All bids or proposals are to be sealed and addressed to **X. F. Beidler**, county clerk of said county, at Lincoln, Illinois, acting through the court house building committee thereof.

“**H. P. Purviance**,

“**O. M. Kiest**,

“**J. C. England**,

“**E. B. Nicholson**,

“**Patrick Ryan**.

“Building Committee.”

For the Erection of Our New Court House

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois, May 12, 1903, p2.

Nine Bids Submitted to Committee, Which Began Deliberating at 2 o’clock on Monday.

“Monday was the day for awarding the contract for the construction of the new court house in Lincoln. The building committee representing the board of supervisors had stipulated in the call for bids that the cost of the new structure should not exceed \$125,000. This was done in order to allow sufficient funds for furnishing out of the total of \$150,000

appropriated for the enterprise. It was further stipulated that the clause would be inserted in the contract entered into with the successful bidder making it his duty to tear down and remove the old court house building before beginning the new.

“Nine bids were submitted to the building committee on Monday and at 2 o’clock they were opened, and a discussion of their contents began.

During the afternoon it was stated that the committee had made no progress in its deliberations, and while it was possible that they would come to a decision inside of an hour, they were just as likely to take a week-in fact, no one of the committee could forecast the length of time necessary to pick a winner.

“Conservative opinion is freely expressed that not a single bid is inside of the figures, which will force the court house committee to do one of two things-either lop of some of the proposed trimmings and reduce the cost or advertise for new bids. The men who speak that way believe that no contractor would undertake the construction of a building like the proposed new temple of justice at the price offered for the work.

“A large crowd of visitors was in the city on Monday and camped under the shade trees in the court house yard. They were all representatives of construction firms and houses which deal in building supplies, and the new court house was to them the morsel of food held out to a hungry man.

“Following is a list of the firms which submitted figures to the building committee: **Southern Illinois Construction co.**, East St. Louis; **F. Jahr**, Champaign; **H. B. Walter**, Danville; **J. A. Simpson**, Lincoln; **E. P. Strandburg**, Chicago; **Charles A. Moses**, Chicago; **McCarty Bros.**, Chicago; **Lake View Building co.**, Chicago; **B. Jobst & Son**, Peoria.

New Bids Asked For by Building Committee

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln Illinois, May 12, 1903, p8.

Contractors' Figures for New Court House Too High and Compromise Arranged.

“On Tuesday the list of bidders for the new court house had narrowed down to three. Six propositions had been discarded, as the figures were clear beyond the stipulated price. The three bids held for discussion were also considerably higher than the amount which the committee wished to expend, but it was believed that some sort of compromise could be effected, and it was said at 2 o'clock in the afternoon that one of the three contracting firms would be awarded the plum before nightfall. The lucky contestants who were in the race are **H. B. Walters** of Danville, **J. A. Simpson** of this city and **B. Jobst & Son** of Peoria. The latter firm submitted the lowest bid, their figures being \$142,000. Mr. Simpson asked for \$172,000 for the work and Mr. Walters' price was about the same.

“This gave the Peoria firm a slight lead in the race, but when the committee asked the contractors for a new set of figures on minor changes in the working plans, there was no certainty who would secure the contract. The building committee were placed in a difficult and responsible position because of the inflated value placed upon the construction of the new courthouse and they proceeded slowly and cautiously. It was obvious to the members that

they would have to make concessions to the contractors, but they expected those gentlemen to be liberal with the committee.

“It was suggested that parr of the more expensive trimming outside the new building could be dispensed with and alterations could be made on the first-floor plan. The original sketches by Architect Deal embraced the following rooms on the first floor: Supervisors' rooms on the first floor, with committee room adjoining; master in chancery, coroner, Grand Army of the Republic memorial hall, women's waiting room, office of county superintendent and examination room with numerous closets and cloak room.

“One at a time the three competing contractors were called before the building committee in session at the city hall and requested to submit new figures on changes indicated. At 3:30 o'clock all hands were busy over the revision, and it looked as though it was a neck and neck race, with anybody a favorite.

“At 4 o'clock the contes narrowed down to two contestants, **J. A. Simpson** of this city dropping out. This left **Jobst & Son** and **H. B. Walters** figuring against each other, and the bone of contention was the cost of the stone work.”

Court House Committee Gets Contract

Herald, Lincoln, Illinois, May 13, 1903, p8.

Logan County's New Court House To Be Erected by Firm of Jobst & Son.

Building Will Cost \$131,000

Concessions made by Both Sides Before an Agreement Was Reached and Deal Closed for Handsome Structure in Gray Stone.

"At noon on Wednesday the contract for building the new Logan county court house was awarded to **B. Jobst & Son**, of Peoria for \$131,000. This was the best set of figures obtainable. The building committee sat for two and a half days and discussed the venture from all sides with the various contractors interested in the deal. The plans called for a structure to cost \$125,000, but not one of the nine firms could get withing \$15,000 of the stipulated price, and it was only after the committee had made several changes that two firms got down low enough to reach the job. These were **Jobst & Son** of Peoria and **H. B. Walters** of Danville. **John A Simpson** of this city revised his figures to read \$158,000 and stood no show. It is said the Danville man was a trifle lower than **Jobst & Son**, but the committee took into consideration the financial standing of the two firms and decided in favor of the Peoria people, because Bradstreet rates the at half a million and fails to mention the name of Walters.

"The new court house will have the raindrop for the first story, and above that either gray sandstone or Bedford building stone. While the matter is not definitely settled, it is probable that gray sandstone will be given preference, for expert opinion says that it will make a much handsomer piece of architecture. One objection to Bedford stone is that if laid in cement or backed up by cement the stone itself will absorb the substance and is so transparent that the effects are easily seen in the blotchy appearance on the outside walls.

"We will have to do without the electric elevator, that one modern convenience of up-to-date buildings which we had figured on showing to strangers with such pride and to prove that we really had some style about us. The Elevator meant an expense of \$2,000 or \$3,000, and it will be left out at present, An Elevator chute is to be constructed, however, and some day when we feel

richer, or an elevator peddler comes along and offers one at a bargain it will be put in and used.

"Other minor changes made on the plans for the interior of the building are as follows:

"Tile partitions under 16 feet changed from 6 to 4 inches.

"Wire fans on each floor on one circuit instead of two.

"Omit tile floor and marble wainscoting in private toilet on second and third floors, using maple floor and oak base.

"Changing plate glass to double strength "A," except entrance doors, which have stone above top of columns to copper.

"These and possibly one or two others constitute the revision of Architect Deal's sketches, made necessary awarding the contract. The building committee acted with discretion and with sound judgment in the position in which they found themselves. The rumor that they would cut out certain rooms or offices or in any way interfere with the outline of accommodations in the new temple of justice had no foundation in fact. No deviation from the adopted plans was made except in the matter of trimmings and economizing on the elevator. It is felt by those connected with the deal that as much has been purchased for the money as any one could reasonably expect. If the original plans had been adhered to the entire appropriation would hardly have been sufficient to close the deal with a contractor, to say nothing of the wherewith to pay for the furnishings when it was completed.

"Some time next week signatures will be affixed to papers by the contact and B. Jobst & Son will furnish the required bond, after which the Peoria firm are expected to begin the destruction of the old building in order to clear the site for the new court house, and thus set at rest the longing and anxiety which was possessed by so many of our citizens these last dozen years."

Contract is Signed for New Building

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois, May 15, 1903, p8.

Jobst & Son Agree to Erect Court House in 400 Working Days and Sign Bond to that Effect.

“The contract between B. Jobst & Son, the Peoria contractors, and the new court house building committee was signed Friday, but the contractor’s bond for \$75,000 will not be made out until next Monday. The agreement governing the construction of the building stipulates that it shall be completed in 400 working days. Subtracting Sundays and making allowance for bad weather and minor delays, it will take about two years to finish the court house.

“Jobst & Son have the reputation for pushing construction work and, as pointed out by one man in touch with the movement, the Peoria contractors will use all possible haste in their undertaking here in order to come out with a clearance sheet, For \$131,000 the firm agrees to erect a structure in accordance with the architect’s plans, the first

story to be of the famous rain drop stone and the remainder of the gray canyon sandstone. It is believed that the decision to use sandstone in preference to Bedford building stone will be approved by people generally who have observed the latter as it appears in many public buildings.

“As mentioned before, Jobst & Son are rated by Bradstreet at half a million dollars and have a recognized place among the big contracting firms. The bond for \$75,000, to be signed next Monday, will, it is believed furnish ample protection against any future mishap.

“Some time next week, it is said, a force of men will arrive in Lincoln and begin the work of tearing down the old building and removing the debris.”

Local Firm to Furnish Stone.

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois, May 16, 1903.

Lincoln Monument Company Gets Contract for Court House Material.

“**William Gayle** of the **Lincoln Monument company** left Friday night for Chicago, where he will make arrangements for the delivery of the stone required in construction of the new court house. Two kinds of stone will be used in the building. For the first story raindrop has been selected. This is a sandstone of about the same quality as the gray canyon, with which it will be placed. Rain drop is of a reddish brown that and splashed with dots of darker color, much resembling rain drops, from which it derives its name. It is quarried in Wisconsin. To complete the first story of the new court house will require 8,000 cubic feet of rain drop.

“The remainder of the structure is to be entirely of gray canyon sandstone, a handsome and durable substance proof against absorption or

changed appearance. Of this stone 16, cubic feet will be used.

“It will thus be seen that Gayle Bros. are engaged in filling an order far beyond the everyday demands of their business. They have contracted with Jobst & Son to furnish the whole amount of stone necessary in the new structure, delivered on the ground and ready for the workmen to place in position. The material will begin arriving next week and by the middle of June it is expected that all of it will be on the ground. Two large derricks will be erected in the court house yard for handling the stone. It will be necessary in the preliminary steps with the building operations to clear away part of the shade trees.



Old Court House Coming Down

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois, May 16, 1903

Crumbling Walls Will Soon Be Wrecked by Unscrupulous Hands and the Building Site Cleared.

“Hip, rip, sish, smash!

“Strike, might, cut, slash!

“Listen to the deafening crash!

“The rumble and the roar,

“Never equaled before,

“As the building topple o’re.

“On Friday afternoon the work of demolishing the old court house began. The historic structure, which has stood for forty-six years and witnessed so many stirring scenes, has now reached the parting of ways. During its lifetime the old temple of justice has seen more of trouble, grief, malice, avarice, greed, despair and hatred than falls to the average lot. Behind its walls the gamut of human emotion and sensations has been run and all the frailties and weaknesses of mankind exposed. As the seat of justice. Right has clung to its friendly spirit and Wrong has ever feared its vengeance. It has held a message of hope to the oppressed and suffering and carried a dread of punishment to the overbearing and sinful. Human life has stood in trembling awe at the words echoed through its halls, and the hand of the assassin has been stilled by the decree which emanated from its spokesman.

But, like other things of this world, it could not last forever. So, the end has come. In a short

time, it will be razed to the ground and carted off and forgotten.

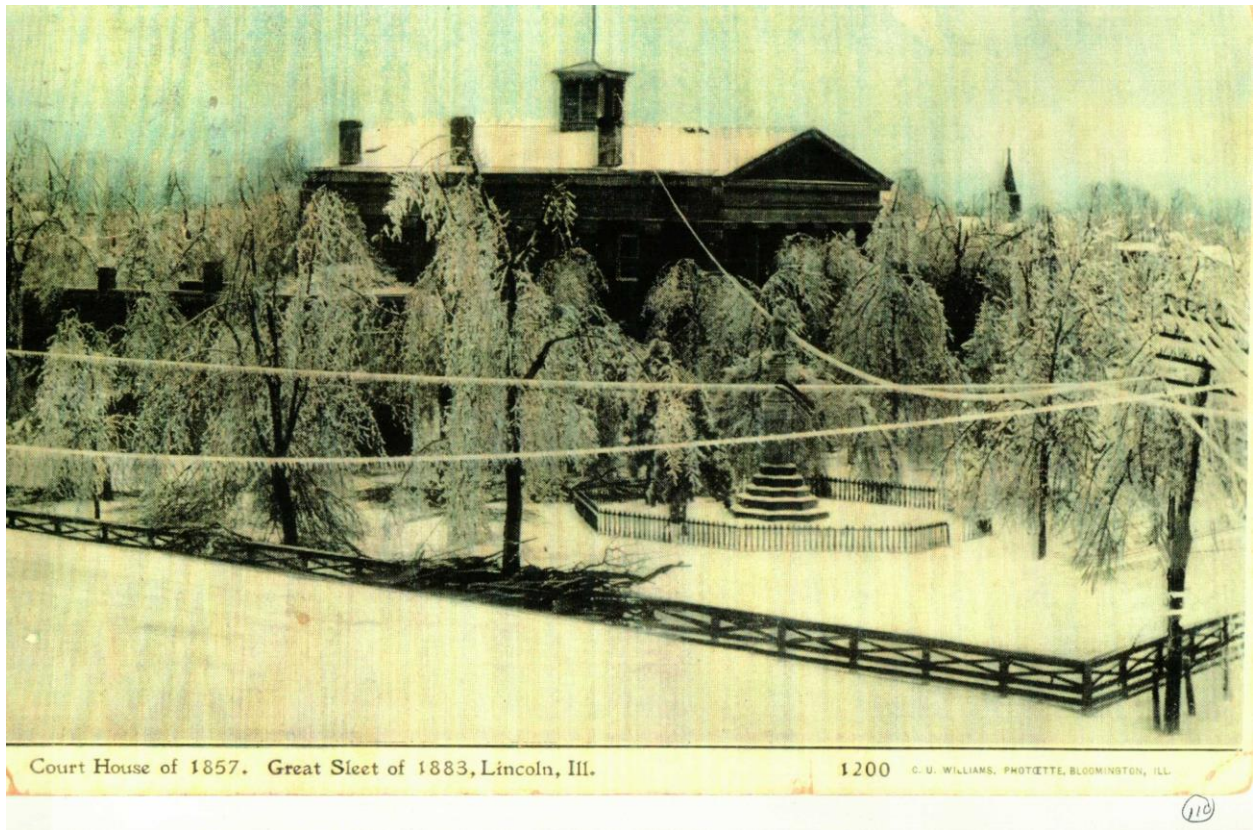
“The old court house, now being torn down was built in 1857, and has many historic connections. The town of Lincoln was founded in 1853 by **John D. Gillette** (afterward the cattle king of Illinois), **Robert B. Latham** (afterward colonel of the One Hundred and Sixth Illinois Infantry), and **Virgil Hickock**. They named the new town after their friend, **Abraham Lincoln**, and engaged him to secure a charter, for which they gave him a lot on the square as his fee. This was held by his heirs until a few years ago.

“The town grew so rapidly that it became the county seat in 1855, and a court house was built in the center of the place. This was burned to the foundations on April 27, 1857, and the present building was erected from the same plans and on the same foundations that fall.

“After the erection of the court house Mr. Lincoln often visited it and many other prominent Illinoisans have spent much time within its walls.

“Uncle **Dick’ Oglesby** was a regular visitor at the convention there and few politicians of any standing have failed to visit it at some time.

Great Sleet of 1883



One Man Dies

Lincoln Herald, Lincoln, Illinois, October 15, 1903, p2

Albert Sutter Passes Away at Midnight From Injuries Received in Court House Accident.

Wilder and Ross Still Alive But in Critical Condition - Additional Details of Lamentable Collapse of the Huge Derrick.

“**Albert Sutter**, the young man 17 years of age, who was most seriously injured Wednesday afternoon in the collapse of the immense derrick at the site of the new court house, Died from the terrible effects of the accident at midnight. The end came in a ward in St. Clara’s hospital. **Charles Sutter**, the father, arrived at 8:15 o’clock from Peoria in time to see his son before the dissolution. The lad regained consciousness for a moment, long enough to recognize his loved one and feeble say: ‘Hello, Father.’ The body was taken from the hospital to the undertaking establishment of Boyden & Son and Thursday morning was taken back to Peoria, where the funeral and burial will be held.

Story of the Accident

“Now that the derrick has fallen, resulting in loss of life and destruction of property, it is amazing to know how many people there are who ‘knew it all the time.’ All sorts of conjectures are advanced as to the cause, some claiming it was the result of faulty iron work, others that it was faulty timbers and still others claim the construction was faulty.

“On this point the News-Herald interviewed Mr. **George J. Jobst** who responded:

“Of course, it was faulty somewhere; this pile of debris attests that fact, but as to where it broke first and what really caused the collapse will probably never be known. There was a crack, a crash and a fall, and these followed each other with such rapidity that no person can tell what part of the derrick first gave away. To look at the pile

of debris, with hundreds of broken pieces of timber and iron, no one can tell which broke first. Any expression on this line is a mere supposition.

“Mr. Jobst was in the basement watching the cables which run from the engine to the derrick to see that they did not get twisted when the accident occurred. No test of the strength of the derrick was being made at the time: they were not quite ready for that. The hook which was intended to carry the stones was weighted with a stone which would not exceed 400 pounds at the time of the accident, and this was being carried simply for the purpose of lowering the hook when necessary. The weight the derrick was carrying contributed nothing whatever to the accident. It would have occurred at about the time it did had there been no stone on the hook. The derrick was constructed with a view to elevating four tons at a time and the carrying of a few hundred pounds, which was not at the end of the boom, could have contributed little or nothing to the event.

“The manner in which the derrick fell could not have been more fortunate, had the contractors been called to select the direction and manner of the fall. The long boom stretched out to the east about sixty feet above the base of the main part of the derrick, which was made of two large upright spliced together. The derrick fell to the east, doubling at about the point where the splicing was made drawing the boom with it, thus piling the iron, steel and wood, of which the structure was composed, in the long hallway running east and west through the building and missing all the division walls. Even this immense weight had no effect on the concrete floor except at the remote western end, where the floor was somewhat damaged. The main part of the floor stood this terrific jolt without showing a crack and the concussion must have been heavy, for the large timbers which went into the derrick were splintered as if they were kindling wood.

Description of the Derrick.

“The immense concern which fell was considered one of the largest ever used in construction work. The upright part of the derrick reached a height of 96 feet. There were three uprights, each consisting of two large pieces of pine timber spliced together, and securely bolted, all resting on a foundation of heavy timbers. At a height which would permit swinging the arms above the highest of the walls to be constructed,

was attached to beams of heavy pine timbers measuring 14x16 inches, strongly spliced and bolted and reaching out a distance of 65 feet from the upright part of the derrick. The cost of construction of the derrick was about \$3,000.

“The uprights were fastened to heavy posts set in concrete several feet in the earth. Previous to the fall it was thought that if anything should happen to break any one of these guy ropes, or if the derrick itself should give away, either the uprights or the arms, there was no telling what damage would result, but as the gentlemen in charge were competent and knew what they were doing, it was presumed that everything was safe. It made one dizzy to see the workmen engaged at the top of this large concern.

Heavy Loss Sustained.

“As to the financial loss sustained by the contractors by reason of this accident, no approximate amount can be determined at this time. Messrs. **Jobst & Sons** have had no time to figure on this feature of the sad affair. Mr. Valentine Jobst Sr. was in the city when the sad accident occurred, and together with his son, George, devoted his entire time to looking after the comfort and care of the wounded men, by providing them with the best medical attention to be had. It is plainly apparent that with the high prices of material and labor Messrs. Jobst & Son will do well to get out whole on this contract, but if they should be losers, they will pocket the loss with the best grace possible under the circumstances. To give any figures would certainly be nothing more than mere guesswork, as the contractors themselves cannot give a reliable estimate at this time.

Care for the Injured.

“The attention of Messrs. Jobst & Sons was first directed to the care of the wounded men and physicians were summoned at once by them. Messrs. Wilder and Sutter were removed to St. Clara’s hospital and **Mr. Ross** preferred to go the home of his half-brother, **Ed Folts**, on, West Fourth street.

Injuries the Men Sustained.

“Young Sutter, the one dead, was the worst hurt of the three. The left thigh was broken, right wrist dislocated, concussions and two or three open wounds above the right eye. He bled profusely and utters agonizing groans. Sutter was senseless almost continuously until death ended

his misery. Internal hemorrhages set in at 7 o'clock. Sutters's spine was also probably injured.

"Wilder, the expert clumber, is at St. Clara's hospital and is doing as well as his physician, **Dr. Lowrie**, can expect at this time. His nose was fractured, contusions on the back of the head and lacerations and bruises all over the body. Previous to removal to the hospital he was taken to Dr. Lowrie's office, where some of the worst lacerations were sewed. Wilder remains in critical condition, and it is impossible at present to predict positively the outcome of his injuries. Complications are liable to arise that would cause death.

"Ross proved to be more seriously injured than thought at first and **Dr. Banks**, the physician

in charge of his case, is very fearful of the final result. His worst injury is a fracture at the base of the skull.

Public Very Curious

"The loud crash caused by the fall of the derrick was heard for blocks around the court house square and instinctively everyone knew just what had happened. People flocked to the site by the hundreds intent on seeing every detail of the catastrophe. Men and women were ready and anxious to do anything in their power to aid but there were plenty of physicians on hand for all emergencies. Thursday the gates to the tall fence around the square were locked so that the work on the debris could proceed without interruption."



1905 Logan County, Illinois Court House before current restoration project, pre-2008.



Photo Courtesy of Randy Washam and the Logan County Board, 2023.



Photo Courtesy of Randy Washam and the Logan County Board, 2023.

LCGHS STORE

To order books and CD's, send a letter to LCGHS at 114 N. Chicago St, Lincoln, IL 62656, give the name of each book or CD - quantity and price + S/H for each item. Please include your check for the total amount, along with your name and address.

BOOKS

A Deeper Dive Into the Better Government Council of Logan County, Illinois, Fuller – 2021. \$35+\$5 S/H.

The Spanish Influenza Epidemic in Logan County, Illinois, 1918-1920, Donath – 2020. \$30+\$5 S/H.

The Last Farm Boy, Beaver, 2011

Abraham Lincoln in Logan County, Beaver - \$25 + \$5 S/H

Days Gone By (Our one-room schools) - \$38 + \$5 S/H

Generosity, The Story of Logan County, During the Great War, Donath-2016 - \$30 + \$4 S/H

Be Careful Crossing the Hard Road, Detmers - \$15 + \$3 S/H

Logan Co. Township Maps of one room schools & Cemeteries; (soft cover) shows location of one room schools & cemeteries in Logan County. \$10 + \$3 S/H

This Is My Story, Vol. II; (hard cover) 365 pages
Personal stories from Logan County Veterans who served in any branch of the Military. \$25+\$5 S/H

The Town Abraham Lincoln Warned, Henson-2011-
\$15 + \$4 S/H

William Scully & the Scully Estate of Logan Co.,
Beaver - \$15 + S/H

CD'S

All CDs are \$20 + \$2 S/H. *CDs are searchable unless noted.*

Logan County Census 1860- complete
Logan County Census Index 1840, 1850, 1855, 1860, 1870, 1880 Logan County
Census Index

Logan County Atlases 1873, 1893, 1910; (not searchable)

Dedication of the Civil War Soldier Statue - 2011

MISCELLANEOUS

Logan County Courthouse 100th Anniversary;
(soft cover) \$10 +\$4 S/H

Lincoln, IL, A Chronology 1953-2003; \$5+\$3 S/H

1917 Prairie Farmers Reliable Directory of Breeders & Farmers in Logan County; 3 ring notebook & protective sleeves \$20+\$4 S/H or \$15 for soft cover

Heirship records of 1920 – 1924 & newspaper abstracts of 1839 - 1849; (soft cover) not available at Courthouse due to the fire of 1857. 148 pages (Updated due to faded print) \$20+\$4 S/H

Mason City Centennial Book, \$15 + \$5 S/H

ORNAMENTS – All Ornaments are \$10 each.

1999 Logan Co. Courthouse
2000 Lincoln City Hall
2001 Lincoln Public Library
2002 Abraham Lincoln Mem. Hospital
2004 Lincoln College
2005 Logan Co Courthouse
2006 Earl Hargrove Chapel LCC

2007 The Arcade Building
2008 Logan Co. Courthouse
2009 Logan Co. Courthouse
2010 Lincoln Woman's Club
2013 A. Lincoln's 1858 Speech
2015 Knapp, Chesnut, Becker Building, Middletown, IL

Duplicate Books Available

The following duplicate books are available for purchase from LCG&HS. High school & college yearbooks sell for \$10 each and include:

Lincoln: 1920; 1921; 1922; 1923; 1924; 1925;
1926, 1927; 1928; 1929; 1930; 1931; 1932;
1933; 1934; 1935; 1936; 1937; 1939; 1940;
1941; 1942; 1947; 1948; 1949; 1950; 1951

Hartsburg-Emden: 1956

Elkhart Sesquicentennial: 2005, \$15 + S/H

Lincoln College: 1963; 1972

Mt. Pulaski - 1926, 1927, 1930

Make Tracks to Latham 125th Anniversary

1872-1972 - \$20 + S/H

Mt. Pulaski 100yr 1836-1936 - \$10 + S/H

Twelve Momentous Years in the Other Atlanta, 1853-1865 - \$20 + S/H

Elkhart is Like a Box of Chocolates - \$7 + S/H

Echoes from the Branches - \$7 + S/H

Glimpses of Lincoln, IL. - \$15 + S/H

Lincoln, IL, A Chronology, 1853-2003, \$15 + S/H

Lincoln City Directories: 1934; 1941; 1955;

1962, 1964; 1967; 1971; 1972; 1973; 1974; 1976;

1977, 1978, 1979; 1980; 1981; 1982; 1984; 1985;

1986; 1987; 1988; 1989; 1990; 1991; 1992; 1993;

1994; 1995; 1996; 1997; 1998; 2000; 2005

ATLAS/PLAT BOOKS AVAILABLE

Logan County Illinois: 1979; 1993; 1996; 1997 individual - \$10 each, **2013 - \$35 + \$5 S/H**

McLean County Illinois: 1996 - \$10

LOGAN COUNTY PLATES

Emden – 7.5 in: 1871-1971

Emden St. Peter's Lutheran Church: 1879-1979

Abraham Lincoln – 10 in: 1853-1953

Abraham Lincoln -150th Birthday

Abraham Lincoln - Ashtray

Lincoln First Methodist Church-new building

Lincoln Sesquicentennial: 1818-1968

Logan Co. Fair - 50th Anniv.

Mt. Pulaski Methodist Church - 10in

Mt. Pulaski Stahl's Siltenial: 1836-1961

Mt. Pulaski Courthouse Siltenial: 1836-1961

Odd Fellows Home; 1967

Sheers Building

Sheers Courthouse

Sheers Auto Supply

Zion Lutheran Ch - Lincoln

Plates are \$10 each plus \$4 S/H.

**Worrying won't stop the bad stuff from happening.
It just stops you from enjoying the good.**

Logan County Genealogical & Historical Society
114 N. Chicago Street, Lincoln IL 62656
(217) 732-3200

Membership Application/Renewal

Membership runs from January 1 to December 31. Membership includes four quarterlies. To receive a Membership Card, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Multiple year memberships are appreciated.

New Member ____ **Renewing Member** ____ **Membership year:** 2024 2025 2026 2027

Today's date _____

Memberships received after April 1st – please add \$3.00 for mailed back issues of Quarterlies.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____ **Phone** _____

Membership Dues: Individual _____ \$20.00

Dual (Two persons at same address) _____ \$25.00

In an effort to cut postage costs, the quarterly newsletter, *Roots and Branches*, will be emailed to members who have their email address on file with the Society. Members not having email will continue to receive their quarterly by mail. **NOTE:** Please remember to update your email address with LCGHS when changes are made to it.

Email address: _____ **Website Research Code:** Yes No

Indicate the family surname and information that you are researching, limit to 4.

Surnames: _____

Individuals to be researched: _____

If you want our assistance in your research, indicate the Surnames and/or any information you already have that will help in our search (i.e., dates, places of birth, death, etc.). For members, \$15 for initial research is requested. Non-members, please call 217-732-3200 for research fees.

We want to thank you for your support. The research center is operated solely on yearly membership dues and donations.

I would like to make an additional donation of \$_____.

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