



The Urbana Free Library

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Sidney Historical Society  
Records, 1987-2010

Collection 68

## Champaign County Historical Archives

**Compiled by:** Andrew Crook and Donica Martin  
**Creator/Corporate name:** Sidney Historical Society  
**Inclusive Dates:** 1987-2010, bulk 1987-1992  
**Physical Description:** 1 box (.5 linear ft.)  
**Language:** English

**Provenance:**

The Sidney Historical Society records were donated to the Champaign County Historical Archives by Carol Erb in January 2013.

**Access:**

These records are accessible to the public within applicable copyright restrictions and limited to use at the Champaign County Historical Archives of The Urbana Free Library.

**Historical Note:**

The Sidney Historical Society organized in May 1987 and was the result of discussions held following Sidney's Sesquicentennial in 1986. As stated in the Articles of Incorporation, "the purpose of this Society is to promote and encourage the study and preservation of historical material connected with the history of the Sidney area and its environs." Signers of the Constitution and By-Laws were: Laura L. Hungerford, Elinor L. Fear, Kevin A. Erb, Melvin Trick, Everett C. Block, Gary B. Sherman, Virginia McElroy, Doris A. Aufdenkampe, and Marguerite E. Butzow.

Funding for the Society came from membership dues, sales of the Sesquicentennial Souvenir Booklet (authored by Laura Hungerford and Kevin Erb), sales of placemats depicting early scenes of the Sidney area, and donations.

Among the projects of the Society were: the enlargement of early Sidney photographs which were framed and displayed in the Sidney Community Center, enlargement photographs of Sidney churches which were framed and presented to the churches, a Christmas Tour of Homes (1988), donations of historical books to the Sidney Library, collection of oral histories from area residents, and sponsorship of "Sidney News of Long Ago," a weekly column in the *Southern Champaign County Today* newspaper.

Meetings were held on a regular basis through April 1992 with many programs and speakers. Declining health of some members contributed to the move to an inactive status of the Society. Yearly registration with the State of Illinois and payment of the renewal fee continued through 2008. A Certificate of Dissolution of Domestic Corporation Not for Profit was issued in 2010 and the Society officially disbanded.

\*Note: The above history of the Sidney Historical Society was adapted from "A Brief History of the Sidney Historical Society" written by Carol Erb and included with the collection.



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**Scope and Content Note:**

This collection consists of records created and maintained by the Sidney Historical Society. Administration Records include the society's constitution, reports of the executive board to the membership, correspondence with the Internal Revenue Service, and articles of incorporation. Also included are general membership meeting minutes and membership sign-in sheets.

**Arrangement:**

Records are arranged into three folders by record type, namely Administration Records, Meeting Minutes, and Membership.

**Subjects Terms:**

Societies – Records and Correspondence.  
Sidney (Ill.) – History.  
Societies and clubs.  
Local Histories – Illinois – Sidney.

**Container List:**

**Box 1**

Folder 1: Administration Records, 1987-2010  
Folder 2: Meeting Minutes, 1987-1991  
Folder 3: Membership, 1987-1992