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Champaign County Historical Museum  
Records, 1972-2004

Collection 77

## Champaign County Historical Archives

**Compiled by:** Donica Martin and Breaden Belcher, June 2018; Courtney Smith, 2019

**Creator/Corporate Name:** Champaign County Historical Museum

**Inclusive Dates:** 1972-2004, bulk 1976-1989

**Physical Description:** 3 boxes (2.5 linear ft.)

**Language:** English

### Provenance:

The Champaign County Historical Museum collection materials were donated to the Champaign County Historical Archives.

### 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.

### Biographical/Historical Note:

The Champaign County Historical Museum was founded in 1972 with the mission to “collect and preserve artifacts relating to the history of Champaign County, Illinois, and, by using those artifacts in formal and informal educational activities, to interpret that history to the public.” Originally located within the Wilber Mansion, 907 West University Avenue, Champaign, the museum moved to the historic Cattle Bank building at 102 East University Avenue in 1997. The Cattle Bank was built in 1856, and is the oldest commercial structure in Champaign County.

### Scope and Content Note:

This collection contains organizational records pertaining to the operation and administration of the Champaign County Historical Museum from 1972-2004, as well as records from programs and exhibits they hosted. Materials include meeting minutes, financial reports, committee research, museum activities, exhibit files, and project files.

### Arrangement:

Records are organized into three series:

Series 1: Administrative records

Series 2: Projects and planning

Series 3: Exhibits and Programs

Records within Series 1 and 2 are organized by record type, then chronologically. Records within Series 3 flow from general to specific exhibit and program material, and are arranged alphabetically.

### Subjects Terms:

Champaign County (Ill.)—History

University Ave (Champaign), West, 709



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University Ave (Champaign), East, 102

**Name Terms:**

Champaign County Historical Museum  
Wilber Mansion (Champaign, Ill.)  
Cattle Bank (Champaign, Ill.)  
Greek Revival Cottage (Urbana, Ill.)

**Container List:**

**Box 1**

**Series 1: Administrative records**

Folder 1: Champaign County Museum Committee, 1972-1973  
Folder 2: Constitution and By-laws, 1972  
Folder 3: Membership Lists, 1976-1981  
Folder 4: Policies, Job descriptions  
Folder 5: Champaign County Historical Museum, A Report by Patricia Miller, Oct. 17, 1973  
Folder 6: Annual Reports, 1974-1977  
Folder 7: Annual Reports, 1978-1980; 1982  
Folder 8: Agendas for Board of Trustees Meetings, 1980-1985; 1990-1991  
Folder 9: Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes, 1972-1974  
Folder 10: Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes, 1975-1977  
Folder 11: Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes, 1978-1980  
Folder 12: Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes, 1981-1982

**Box 2**

**Series 1: Administrative records (continued)**

Folder 13: Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes, 1983-1985  
Folder 14: Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes, 1988-1991, 1997  
Folder 15: Board of Trustees, Undated materials  
Folder 16: Report on Board of Trustees Terms in Office, Jul. 20, 1979  
Folder 17: Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, 1979; 1981; 1985; 1989-1990  
Folder 18: Annual Meeting of the Membership, 1975; 1980; 1981; 1983  
Folder 19: Committee Materials, 1975-1980  
Folder 20: Financial Report/Budget, 1974-1979  
Folder 21: Financial Report/Budget, 1980  
Folder 22: Financial Report/Budget, 1981-1982  
Folder 23: Financial Report/Budget, 1983-1985  
Folder 24: Financial Report/Budget, 1990-1991  
Folder 25: Financial Report/Budget, Undated materials  
Folder 26: Grants/Awards

**Series 2: Projects and planning**

Folder 27: Museum Activities, 1975-1977



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- Folder 28: Museum Activities, 1978-1979
- Folder 29: Museum Activities, 1980-1982
- Folder 30: Museum Activities, 1983-1984; 1988; 1990-1991
- Folder 31: Museum Activities, Undated materials
- Folder 32: Greek Revival Cottage Project, 1976-1979
- Folder 33: Correspondence, 1976-1984

**Box 3**

**Series 2: Projects and planning (continued)**

- Folder 34: Correspondence, 1985-2005
- Folder 35: Historic Preservation Committee, 1977-1981
- Folder 36: Inventory Items, 1976-1981
- Folder 37: Proposed Acquisitions, 1975-1983
- Folder 38: Committee on Research and Documentation, 1978-1983
- Folder 39: Goals and Policies, 1979-1980
- Folder 40: Interim and Long-term Planning, 1976-1990
- Folder 41: Proposed Merger of Champaign County Historical Museum and Historical Society, 1980
- Folder 42: A Marketing Plan for Attracting Attendance, 1982
- Folder 43: Wilber Mansion Project, Undated
- Folder 44: Cattle Bank Restoration Project, undated
- Folder 45: Clippings, undated
- Folder 46: Gift of Organ and Organ Stool, undated
- Folder 47: Museum and Local History Research
- Folder 48: Champaign County History Quarterly, undated
- Folder 49: Blank forms used by the museum
- Folder 50: Conference and Workshop Reports, 1974-1978
- Folder 51: Conference and Workshop Reports, 1979-1984
- Folder 52: Other museums and historical organizations

**Series 3: Exhibits and Programs**

- Folder 53: Exhibits, Programs, and Events, 1970-1977
- Folder 54: Exhibits, Programs, and Events, 1978-1983

**Box 4**

**Series 3: Exhibits and programs (continued)**

- Folder 55: Educational Materials, 1990 and undated
- Folder 56: Program and Exhibit Flyers, 1975-1990 and undated
- Folder 57: Wilbur Mansion Programs, 1976-1991 and undated
- Folder 58: Miscellaneous Publications, 1976 and undated
- Folder 59: 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Prairie Festival, 1975 September
- Folder 60: Antique Showcase, 1985
- Folder 61: "Ball Gowns" Exhibit, [1990] December
- Folder 62: "The Blue and the Gray" Civil War Exhibit, 1989 September 10 – October 29
- Folder 63: Cemetery Walk Programs, 1996 and undated



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- Folder 64: Centennial Farms Exhibit, 1976
- Folder 65: "A Century of Wedding Days" Exhibit, 1989 May-June
- Folder 66: Champaign County Sesquicentennial, 1967-1968, 1983
- Folder 67: Christmas Exhibits, 1964-1979 and undated
- Folder 68: Contemporary House Tour, 1976
- Folder 69: "Doing Business in Old Champaign-Urbana" Exhibit, 1978, 1986
- Folder 70: Doll Holiday and Florists Showcase, 1986, 1990
- Folder 71: "Doll's World" Exhibit, 1965, 1977 January 26 – March 6
- Folder 72: Easter Exhibit, undated
- Folder 73: "Generations of Pride: African-Americans in Illinois" Exhibit, 1993 and undated

**Box 5**

**Series 3: Exhibits and programs (continued)**

- Folder 74: Grass Roots Preservation Exhibit, undated
- Folder 75: Heritage Program, 1988-1990
- Folder 76: "Meet Me at the Fair" Exhibit, 1979 January 24 – May 6
- Folder 77: "Meet Your Neighbor" Exhibit, 1989 July 9 – August 27
- Folder 78: "The Miracle of Corn" Storytime, undated
- Folder 79: "The Prairie Endures" Exhibit, 190, 1977 September 7 – November 20
- Folder 80: "A Stitch in Time" Exhibit, 1977 May 13 – August 7
- Folder 81: Summer Social Programs, 1991, 1996
- Folder 82: "Sunday Afternoon at the Mansion" Program, 1993 and undated
- Folder 83: "Sweet & Cool" Exhibit, 1990 May and undated
- Folder 84: Thanksgiving Exhibit, undated
- Folder 85: "The Thirties in Illinois" Exhibit, 1979-1980
- Folder 86: "The Way We Wore" Exhibit, 1976 May 26 – September 19
- Folder 87: "Who's Ella" Program, 1995
- Folder 88: Wilbur Mansion Performance, 1995 April 24
- Folder 89: Subject File: Champaign County History, 1975
- Folder 90: Subject File: Cherubs and Angels, 1942-1979 and undated
- Folder 91: Subject File: Dominoes, undated
- Folder 92: Subject File: Joseph Oscar Cunningham, undated
- Folder 93: Subject File: The First Kaskaskia, 1973
- Folder 94: Subject File: "French and Indians in Illinois", 1978
- Folder 95: Subject File: Junior Women's Club-Maids, 1976 and undated
- Folder 96: Subject File: Lamps, 1997
- Folder 97: Subject File: Prairie Life and Pioneer Culture, 1975 May and undated
- Folder 98: Subject File: Prairie Life and Pioneer Culture - Christmas, 1976 and undated

**Box 6**

**Series 3: Exhibits and programs (continued)**

- Folder 99: Subject File: Prairie Life and Pioneer Culture – Educational Materials
- Folder 100: Subject File: Prices for 1894



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Folder 101: Subject File: Shoe Ads, undated

Folder 102: Subject File: Typewriters, 2001 and undated

Folder 103: Subject File: Valentine's Day, 2003

Folder 104: Subject File: Wilbur Family History and Wilbur Mansion, 1974 and undated

Folder 105: Subject File: Women's History, 1963, 1996

Folder 106: Miscellaneous clippings, undated.