

RESEARCHING YOUR HOME LOOKING THROUGH ARCHIVES

Read local **newspaper archives**. Your local library typically keeps archives of the local newspaper.

Go to the **county seat**. Search backwards, looking for mentions of construction in your neighborhood or names of the house's previous owners. Keep in mind that street names and numbers can change over time, so record any changes you see and the dates so you can construct a chronology.

Visit your local **historical society**. Most regions have a historical society that maintains historical records and information about your house and your general neighborhood.

Searching for information **online**. There are many websites dedicate to preserving genealogical records and property history records. Illinois is a public land state. (mentioned above). The National Archives (www.archives.gov), 1-86-NARA-NARA or 1-866-272-6272 and the Land Records and the Bureau of Land Management's Land Patent Search page.

Compile a **chronological history** of your house. As you uncover information about your house, arrange it in chronological order so that you can map the house's history from the original construction to the present. Keeping your information ordered this way also enables you to identify gaps in that history where more research is needed.

Danville Public Library:	217-477-5220
Vermilion County Seat (Clerk):	217-554-1914
Vermilion County Museum:	217-442-2922
Illiana Genealogical and Historical Society:	217-431-8733