

ILLINOIS HISTORIC SITES SURVEY INVENTORY

1. Name of Site:

Common The Homestead; DeWitt County Museum
Historic C. H. Moore Home with outbuilding

2. Location:

<u>Street and Number</u>	<u>Township</u>	<u>Section</u>
219 East Woodlawn	Clintonia	27
<u>City or Town</u>	<u>Zip Code</u>	<u>1/4 Section</u>
Clintonia	61727	
<u>County</u>		
DeWitt		

3. Classification:

Category (check one)	Integrity (check one)
() District (X) Building	() Altered (X) Unaltered
() Site () Structure	() Moved (X) Original Site

4. Ownership:

() Private	() Occupied
(X) Public	() Unoccupied
	(X) Preservation work in progress

Access to Public

(X) Yes () Restricted () Unrestricted () No

Present Use (check one or more)

() Agricultural	() Industrial	() Religious
() Commercial	() Military	() Scientific
() Educational	(X) Museum	() Transportation
() Entertainment	() Park	() Other (specify)
() Government	() Private Residence	

5. Ownership of Property:

<u>Owner's Name</u>	C. H. Moore estate	<u>Phone Number</u>
<u>Street and Number</u>	DeWitt County Museum	
<u>City or Town</u>		
<u>State</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Zip Code</u>

6. Description:

Condition:

(X) Excellent () Good () Fair () Deteriorated () Ruins
() Unexposed

Is there a program of preservation underway? (X) Yes () No

COMMERCE

The house was acquired by lease from the estate of C. H. Moore in 1967. Since that time restoration and redecoration has been taking place.

The house was opened to the public in 1969 as an example of a country home during the Victorian 1880's. The date for the restoration was established by the remodeling and expansion of 1887 by C.H. Moore.



7. Historical Themes: (check one or more of the following)

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Archeological Site | (Pre-Columbian) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Archeological Site | (Post-Columbian to 1673) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | French Influence | (1673-1780) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Illinois Frontier | (1780-1818) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Illinois Early | (1818-1850) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Illinois Middle | (1850-1900) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Illinois Late | (1900-present) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Famous People | (give names & dates) |

8. Specific Date: Built in 1863

Areas of significance (check one or more of the following)

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Aboriginal (historic) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Literature |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Aboriginal (pre-historic) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Military |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> | Music |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> | Political |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Art | <input type="checkbox"/> | Religion/Philosophy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> | Science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Communication | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sculpture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> | Social/Humanitarian |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Education | <input type="checkbox"/> | Theater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> | Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> | Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Invention | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Other (specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Landscape Architecture | | Museum |

Brief statement of significance: (include all names and dates)
Use additional sheets if necessary. (See back)

9. Form prepared by:

Name and Title: Mrs. Sandra Kent Date _____

Organization: DeWitt Co. Museum Association Phone: _____

Street and number: 219 E. Woodlawn

City or Town: Clinton County: DeWitt Zip Code: 61727

During the course of the Survey we often find it necessary to search for references for a particular site. When filling out the Survey form, please list according to the following example, published references to the site for which forms are being completed. If a bibliography can be compiled, it will greatly deduct from the Survey's task.

Bibliography

Robertson, Robert, Cf Whales and Men. New York, Alfred K. Knopf, Inc., 1954.

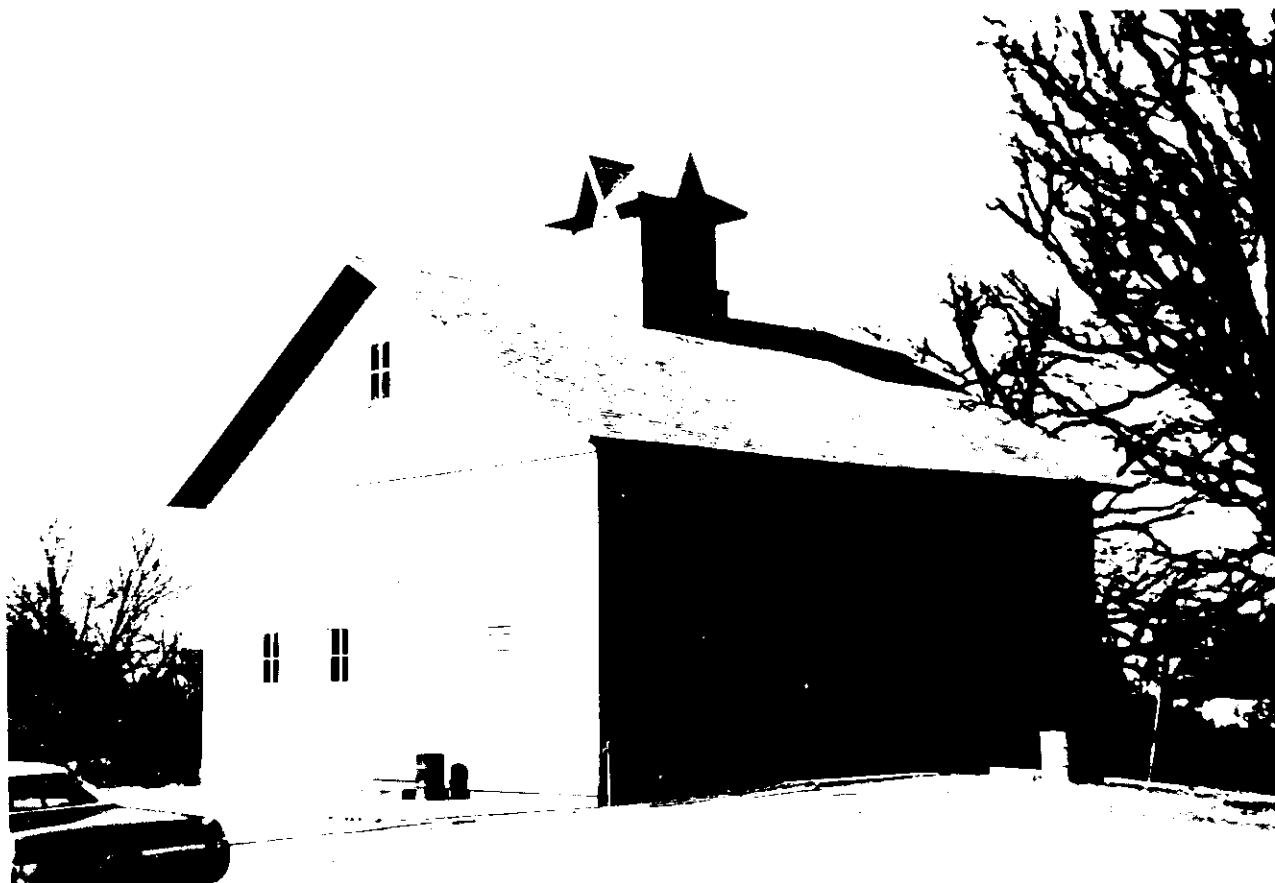
Since the house is tied up in the estate, it has not been used in its entirety since the death of Mrs. Moore in 1907.

Several of the original pieces have been donated by the family, thus adding to the authenticity of the restoration and furnishing.

C. H. Moore was the first lawyer in this community and a business partner of Daniel Davis. Thomas Snell, Lawrence Weldon, Abraham Lincoln, and Stephen Douglas were his guests, friends and contemporaries. He was an active supporter of Lincoln, but shunned the spotlight himself. (4)

The house was begun in 1863 by John and (2) Minerva Moore Bishop. But stood as a skeleton during the Civil War. It was finished when workmen and supplies became more plentiful and moved in in 1867. Mr. Moore bought the home from his brother-in-law in 1880 (2). It stood vacant until the expansion and redecoration in 1887. (1). Mr. and Mrs. Moore lived in the home until their deaths in 1901 and 1907 (3). The two story library that was created during the restyling housed the largest collection of books in downstate Illinois in 1901.

1. Inscription on addition foundation in basement of the home.
2. Records in the office of Taylor Abstract, Clinton.
3. Gravestones and obituaries in newspapers.
4. "Portrait of a Prairie Lawyer", Maurice Porter, 1960. Doctorate thesis at U. of I. Law Library.
5. The private papers of C. H. Moore in C. H. Moore estate office.
6. Obituary of C. H. Moore in "Chicago Tribune", April, 1901.



The house is in its original condition with only the plaster replaced in several rooms. Since the house is tied up in the estate, it has not been used in its entirety since the death of Mr. Moore in 1907.

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C. H. Moore was the first lawyer in the community and a business partner of Daniel Davis. Thomas Snell, Lawrence Weldon, Abraham Lincoln, and Stephen Douglas were his guests, friends, and contemporaries. He was an active supporter of Lincoln but shunned the spot light himself.

The house was begun in 1863 by John and Minerva Moore Bishop. But stood as a skelton during the Civil War. It was finished when workmen and supplies became more plentiful and moved in in 1867. Mr. Moore bought the home from his brother in-law in 1880. It stood vacant until the expansion and redecoration in 1887. Mr. and Mrs. Moore lived in the home until their deaths in 1901 and 1907. The two story library that was created during the restyling housed the largest collection books in downstate Illinois in 1901.

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ILLINOIS HISTORIC SITES SURVEY INVENTORY

SURVEY USE ONLY

1. Name of Site: The Homestead

Common

Historic

- Archeology
 Architecture
 History

2. Location:

Street and Number

Township

Section

219 E. Woodlawn
City or Town

Zip Code

Clintonia
Range

²⁷
1/4 Section

Clintonia
County

61727

DeWitt

3. Classification:

Category (Check one)

- District Building
 Site Structure

Integrity (Check One)

- Altered Unaltered

Position (Check one)

- Moved Original Site

4. Ownership

- Private
 Public

Status (check one)

- Occupied
 Unoccupied
 Preservation work in progress

Access to Public

- Yes Restricted Unrestricted No

Present Use (check one or more)

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial | <input type="checkbox"/> Religious |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educational | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Government | <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence | |

5. Ownership of Property

Owner's Name

C.H. Moore estate

Phone Number

DeWitt Co. Museum

Street and Number

City or Town

State

County

Zip Code



6. Description:

Condition

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

Is there a program of preservation underway? Yes No

7. Historical Themes: (check one or more of the following)

- Archeological Site (pre-Columbian)
- Archeological Site (post-Columbian to 1673)
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- Illinois Early (1818-1850)
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- Illinois Late (1900-present)
- Famous People (Give names & dates)

8. Specific Date: built in 1863

Areas of Significance (check one or more of the following)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal (historic) | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal (prehistoric) | <input type="checkbox"/> Military |
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Political |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | |

Brief statement of significance: (include all names and dates). Use additional sheets if necessary.

9. Form prepared by:

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Organization DeWitt County Musuem Association.

Street and Number 219 E. Woodlawn

City or Town Clinton County DeWitt Zip Code 61727

Phone number _____

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