



"Preserving and Promoting our History"

Robinson-Stewart House

The Great Restoration



The Robinson-Stewart House is the oldest house in White County and one of the oldest in the state. The original log cabin was built for John Crow in 1814. At the time it was built, it was located in the middle of the wilderness of the Illinois Territory. As the town grew, the house served as the courthouse. It was sold to US Senator John Robinson in 1835. He enclosed the dog run/porch between the original 2 rooms. The Senator and his wife, Mary Ratcliff, added a dining room and kitchen. As they needed even more space, they added a kitchen on the back of the house. The former dining room became the parlor and the kitchen became the dining room. Miss Mary Jane was Senator Robinson's granddaughter and when she passed away in 1966 she left the house to the White County Historical Society.

The "Great Restoration" began in 2021 with much needed work on the windows but expanded to include stabilizing the foundation, repair of a crumbling brick fireplace, replacing ductwork, repairing and painting the wooden clapboard siding, and, in the future, a new roof, gutters and other repairs to restore the exterior appearance. We are committed to preserving the house and sharing our history. We have a goal of raising \$60,000 through grants and donations.

To get started with these fundraising goals, we are asking individuals, clubs, organizations, and families to come together to sponsor a window or set of French Doors. A brass plaque will be placed on each sponsored window/door frame to commemorate your donation. H. D. Bean Jewelers will donate the engraving services. Please provide your contact information with donations. This is a wonderful way to honor a loved one, your ancestors, or just show your support for local history.

<i>Sponsor a Window - 10 available</i>	<i>\$1200</i>
<i>Sponsor French Doors - 2 available</i>	<i>\$2200</i>

Please make checks payable to:

White County Historical Society and mail to PO Box 121, Carmi, IL 62821

Follow us on Facebook at White County Historical Society for all the latest news and events.

Email: rshous@gmail.com

The White County Historical Society is a registered 501(c)3 non-profit organization and eligible donations are tax deductible.