

**McLean County Museum of History**

**David Davis Mansion State Historic Site Collection**

Processed by  
John P. Elterich  
Summer 2024

**Collection Information**

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 Box
COLLECTION DATES:	1961 -
RESTRICTIONS:	None
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History
ALTERNATIVE FORMATS:	None
OTHER FINDING AIDS:	None
LOCATION:	Archives
NOTES:	See also David Davis Collection; Davis Correspondence Collection

**Brief History**

This collection includes the materials relating to the David Davis Mansion State Historic Site, located at 1000 E. Monroe Drive, Bloomington. The Mansion was designed by Alfred Piquenard and completed in 1872. The David Davis Mansion, also known as Clover Lawn, was the Gilded Age residence of David Davis, Supreme Court justice and U.S. Senator from Illinois. The mansion has been a state museum since 1960.

## Scope

The collection includes brochures, booklets, flyers, newspaper and magazine articles, and other materials relating to the David Davis Mansion State Historic Site, the Mansion Foundation, and Sarah's Garden.

### Box and Folder Inventory

#### Folder 1: Dedications

- 1.1 A Dinner Commemorating the Opening of The David Davis Mansion to the Public, held at Illinois State Normal University, February 10, 1961, booklet, 4 pp. 3 copies.
- 1.2 "David Davis Mansion Marker Dedication," notice in McLean County Historical Society newsletter, October 1969.
- 1.3 The David Davis Mansion Pre-Opening Gala Celebration, sponsored by the David Davis Mansion Foundation, December 4, 1992, 16 pp. (plus cover).

#### Folder 2: Articles (*Historic Illinois*, unless noted)

- 2.1 "Clover Lawn: The David Davis Mansion," *Pantagraph*, December 4, 1992, 2 copies.
- 2.2 "Bloomington's David Davis Mansion," by Evelyn R. Moore, April 1985.
- 2.3 "An Ultra-Modern Nineteenth-Century Home," by Keith Herron and John Bowditch. October 1988.
- 2.4 "Davis Mansion Restoration Underway," April 1990.

#### Folder 3: Brochures and Booklets

- 3.1 "The David Davis Mansion: A Museum of Nineteenth-Century Living," State of Illinois, January 1961, 2 copies.
- 3.2 "The David Davis Mansion: A Museum of Nineteenth-Century Living," State of Illinois, January 1962, 2 copies.
- 3.3 "The David Davis Mansion: A Museum of Nineteenth-Century Living," State of Illinois, January 1966.
- 3.4 "David Davis Mansion," Illinois Department of Conservation, Bureau of Land & Historic Sites, November 1984, re: Cover Illustration: Architect Piquenard's Front Elevation.
- 3.5 "David Davis Mansion State Historic Site," Illinois Department of Conservation, May 1985, 3 copies.
- 3.6 "David Davis Mansion," Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, March 1987.
- 3.7 "David Davis Mansion State Historic Site," Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, Undated.
- 3.8 "Clover Lawn; The David Davis Mansion," The Illinois State Historical Library/The Illinois State Historical Society, undated, 3 copies (2 versions).

#### Folder 4: The David Davis Mansion Foundation

- 4.1 Schedule, "Mr. Lincoln at Clover Lawn," undated (1996?)

- 4.2 The New Hutchinson Singers – Selections (2nd annual public concert - Judge David Davis Mansion),” September 7, 1996, 2 pp. (front and back).
- 4.3 Ticket, “Christmas at Clover Lawn,” December 13, 1997.
- 4.4 “Judge David Davis 200<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration,” booklet, 2015, 8 pp. (plus cover).
- 4.5 “Trick or Treat at David Davis Mansion,” flyer, October 31, 2018.\
- 4.6 “A Bountiful Feast; Thanksgiving at the David Davis Mansion,” flyer, November 3, 2018.
- 4.7 Foundation membership brochure,” January 2003.
- 4.8 “David Davis Mansion Foundation: Membership Information,” brochure, undated.
- 4.9 Foundation brochure, undated, 2 copies.
- 4.10 “Please Join Us for our Merry Little Christmas Open House:, the Staff of the David Davis Mansion & Foundation, flyer, no year.

**Folder 5: The David Davis Mansion Foundation Newsletters**

- 5.1 *Clover Lawn Quarterly*, Spring 1993, 2 pp. (front and back).
- 5.2 *The David Davis Manion Newsletter*, Late Summer 1994, 4 pp. (front and back).
- 5.3 *The David Davis Manion Newsletter*, Winter 1994, 4 pp. (front and back).
- 5.4 “We’ve Been Busy This Year! A Few Highlights from the Big House,” 2017, 2 pp. (front and back).
- 5.5 *David Davis Manion Foundation Newsletter*, Winter 2017-2018, 2 pp. (front and back).
- 5.6 *David Davis Manion Foundation Newsletter*, Spring 2018, 4 pp. (front and back).
- 5.5 *News from the David Davis Manion Foundation*, David Mansion Foundation, Fall/Winter 2018, 4 pp. (front and back).

**Folder 6: Miscellaneous**

- 5.1 “Report of the Mechanical Systems in the David Davis Mansion in Bloomington, Illinois,” by John Bowditch, 9 November 1986, 30 pp..
- 5.2 “David Davis Museum, Bloomington, Illinois,” May 1989, re: hand-drawing.
- 5.3 “David Davis: A Brief Biography,” 1992, 6 pp..
- 5.4 “A Pretty Penny: The Construction of ‘Clover Lawn’,” 1992, 7 pp..
- 5.5 “The Restoration of The David Davis Mansion,” 1992, 5 pp..
- 5.6 “Decorative Painting Competes For Attention At Restored David Davis Mansion,” 1992, 5 pp..
- 5.7 “Restored Fixtures Shed Light On David Davis Mansion,” 1992, 5 pp..
- 5.8 “David Davis Mansion Restoration Fact Sheet,” 1992, 3 pp..
- 5.9 *Volunteer Newsletter*, McLean County Historical Society, Late Summer 1994, 4 pp. (front and back), re: Volunteer Recognition Event will be a gaslight reception at David Davis Mansion on April 24.
- 5.10 “Deconstruction of Myths,” David Davis State Historic Site, undated, 2 pp.
- 5.11 Architectural rendering of front elevation, 8.5” x 11.
- 5.12 Flyer, “Family Day! at the David Davis Mansion,” Saturday, May 18, no year.
- 5.13 Flyer, “Upcoming Car Shows,” June 2, August 43, and September 7, 2024.

## **Folder 7: Sarah's Garden**

- 7.1 "Saving Sarah's Garden; Horticulturist recreating David Mansion's landscape," Pantagraph, July 27, 2001 (original newsprint plus photocopy).
- 7.2 Booklet, "Sarah's Garden," by Steve McDaniel, 2001, 18 pp. (plus cover), 2 copies.
- 7.3 "How Sarah's Garden Grew," by Cynthia A. Fuener, unknown publication, August 2002, pp. 9-11.
- 7.4 "Sarah's Garden: A historically authentic garden blooms at Bloomington's David Davis Mansion," *At Home in Central Illinois* magazine, May/June 2010, pp. 27-32.
- 7.5 "Sarah's Garden: A Bloomington Treasure," by Kay Edwards and Donna Dickson, *50 Plus News & Views*, May 2016, page 6.
- 7.6 "Glorious Garden Festival Unexpected Delights," flyer, June 15-16, no year.
- 7.7 McLean County Master Gardeners Plant Propagation Workshop," flyer, Saturday July 30.
- 7.8 "Sarah's Garden at the David Davis Mansion," brochure, undated.
- 7.9 "Children's Gardening Program," flyer, August 26.
- 7.10 "Why is Sarah's Garden Significant?" by Marcia D. Young, June 12, 2024, 4 pp., re: Prepared for presentation at David Davis Barn.
- 7.11 "Sarah's Garden & Life – Restoration Time Line (until 2014)," by Marcia D. Young, June 12, 2024, 9 pp., re: Prepared for presentation at David Davis Barn.
- 7.12 Email correspondence between Marcia Young and Bill Kemp, 13-27 June 2024, 2 pp., re: Presentation at David Davis Barn, and forwarded enclosures from 12 June 2024.
- 7.13 "Surviving Original Plants (documented and extant in the garden) circa 1872-1927," by Scott Kunst, Steve McDaniel, Marcia Young, and family letters, June 2024, re: prepared for presentation at David Davis Barn.
- 7.14 Prior Inventory Lists ("vertical file"), undated, 3 pp.
- 7.15 "Glorius Garden Festival," July 1-13, 2024, booklet, 46 pp.
- 7.16 Entry coupon, "Glorius Garden Festival," 2024.