

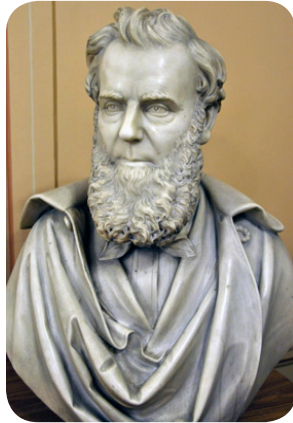
The Commission shall assist and advise the Court in regard to the acquisition, collection, documentation, preservation, cataloging, and related matters with respect to historic aspects of buildings, objects, artifacts, documents, and information, regardless of form, relating to the Illinois judiciary

Illinois Supreme Court Historic Preservation Commission

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ISCHIPC Reports

Supreme Court Building Move

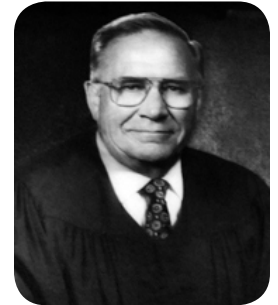


The Supreme Court has vacated the 100-plus-year-old building in downtown Springfield for major renovations. The building will be empty for 12-14 months while the Court meets for its regular terms in Chicago. The Commission assisted with the move by carefully removing and storing many historic artifacts from the building, including 107 portraits of retired justices; Albert Krehbiel's competition mural depicting Justice, Precedent, and Record; and the 150-year-old marble bust of Supreme Court Justice John D. Caton.

In Memoriam



The Commission was saddened to hear about the deaths of former Chief Justice Moses Harrison and former Justice John Nickels. Harrison served on the Illinois Supreme Court from 1992 to 2002. In 2010, the Commission completed an oral history with Justice Harrison, which can be found at <http://illinoiscourthistory.org/justices/moses-harrison-ii>.



Nickels served on the Court from 1992 to 1998. Also in 2010, the Commission completed Justice Nickels' oral history, which has not yet been edited but will appear on the website soon.

Pilot Implementation of Mary Todd Lincoln Curriculum

Deann Fester, a Calhoun County middle school teacher, was one of the experts in 2012 from across the state to design a curriculum relating to the insanity trial of Mary Todd Lincoln. Ms. Fester implemented the curriculum at her school in April and May, culminating in her seventh-grade students presenting their own insanity retrial of the former first lady. With assistance from local attorneys, the students presented their own arguments before retired Macoupin County Judge Thomas P. Carmody. The eleven jurors (John Lupton served as one of the jurors) voted 7 to 4 NOT to institutionalize Mary Todd Lincoln.

Joseph Smith Roundtable Discussion



On April 4, the Commission and the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum presented “Habeas Corpus and the Courts: Protecting Individual Liberties from Joseph Smith to Guantanamo.” The roundtable discussion featured experts from the legal and historical communities and from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The Commission and Library and Museum will present two reenactments of Joseph Smith habeas corpus trials this fall. For more information on the Roundtable Discussion and the Joseph Smith Events, visit www.josephsmithcaptured.com.

Mary & Myra

The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum was the venue for the play/reading performance of *Mary & Myra*, a play written by Catherine Filloux. The Sangamon County Bar Association sponsored the event with the Commission and the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. A large crowd watched Susan Jeffers as Mary Todd Lincoln and Aasne Vigessaa as Myra Bradwell relive the visits of Myra Bradwell to Bellevue Place sanitarium in Batavia, Illinois to help Mary Todd Lincoln obtain a release after Lincoln had been declared insane by a Cook county court. Vigessaa has worked with the Commission previously in her role as Mary Surratt for the retrial in 2011.

Carter Oral History

Justin Law completed an oral history of 3rd District Appellate Justice Robert Carter. Carter served as a law clerk to Supreme Court Justice Howard Ryan in the 1970s. In two sessions, Carter told stories of growing up in Springfield, law school, and the practice of law.



Commission Members

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Staff News

Matt Burns presented an award at the Illinois History



Fair in May to the best display relating to a legal history topic. The winner was a seventh grade student, who assembled an exhibit on Illinois Supreme Court

Justice Howard Ryan.

John Lupton spoke to the Coles County Historical Society about the Mary Todd Lincoln Retrials; gave a tour of the Supreme Court Building to the Sangamon County Historical Society; hosted a Williamsville High School student as a shadow; gave a tour of the Supreme Court Building to Calhoun County seventh graders; gave two presentations to the Lincoln Land Community College Road Scholar program about Abraham Lincoln the lawyer; gave four presentations to the Ronald Reagan Middle School in Dixon, Illinois about Abraham Lincoln the lawyer; gave a tour of the Supreme Court Building to The Network; gave a presentation to the Rotary Club in Shelbyville about identifying Abraham Lincoln's handwriting; and led a discussion at the Horace Mann Teachers Institute on a fictional account of an impeachment of Abraham Lincoln.

The Commission welcomes back Alexandra Kozar as summer help. Kozar has worked for the Commission each summer for the last three years. With her art background, she has been working on several graphic design projects.



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joins the Commission as a summer intern from Illinois College. She has one semester remaining before she receives her bachelor's degree. Nikki has been very helpful on several research tasks.



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