

Inventory of the

Margaret “Peggy” Stuntz
Kirkland, Illinois

Papers

In the
Regional History Center

RC 297

INTRODUCTION

Margaret “Peggy” Stuntz donated her papers to the Northern Illinois Regional History Center on February 22, 2010. An addendum was added at a later date.

Property rights in the collection belong to the Regional History Center; literary rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on access to the collection.

Linear feet of shelf space: 1
Number of containers: 2
Northern Illinois Regional History Center
Collection 297

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Margaret Stuntz Papers contain research, photographs and plays from Margaret Stuntz who writes and directs historical plays for the McHenry County Historical Society. Stuntz began writing historical plays for the McHenry County Historical Society in 2003. She strives for historical accuracy, and draws inspiration from letters, diary entries, journals and newspapers to write the plays.

The first play by Stuntz at the McHenry County Historical Society was “The George Washington Bennett Wake,” in October of 2003. Bennett was an early settler of Marengo and the play depicts frontier times in Illinois. The papers include a script, Bennett family genealogy, and photographs from the play, historical houses, and gravestones.

In 2004, Stuntz was involved with the production of “The Wake of Winnifried May Lincoln McIntyre.” Winnie Lincoln was the daughter of early McHenry County settlers. Included is a script, music, and photographs of the play. Included with the research are extensive Lincoln and McIntyre family genealogies and obituaries.

The third play, “The Wake of Lucius Barber” was performed in October, 2005. Barber was a Civil War soldier and prisoner at Andersonville Prison camp in Georgia where he died of tuberculosis. Barber also wrote *Army Memoirs of Lucius Barber*, 1865. Included with this collection is a script, photos of the production, photos of his grave site and home, and an encore presentation in 2006.

A “Historic and Haunted Seance” was performed in 2007. This play focused on a clairvoyant who tries to contact early McHenry County settler families of Thomas, Noyes and Coquette. The play showcases the California Gold Rush, Civil War, Richmond II, Lincoln’s assassination, and capture of John Wilkes Booth. Production photos are included.

In 2008, Stuntz and the McHenry County Historical Society put on the performance of “Death Fight in Love City.” This play showcased Dr. Alfred J. Moore and his commune at Heaven City, near Harvard II. These papers contain information on Moore, the Life Institute cult of Chicago, numerous newspaper articles on Heaven City and genealogy on the Moore and Shirley Talcott families.

In 2009, Stunts and the Kirkland Historical Society put on the production “Riding into History, Illinois 8th Calvary.” This play depicts the story of the 8th Illinois Calvary and Col. John Farnsworth. Included with these papers are scene organizations, a script, music and photos.

Additionally included with the Margaret Stuntz papers is a book she authored, “Kirkland: Then and Now,” 2007. This is a historical depiction of Kirkland’s history from 1842 to 2007, with some of the actual descendants providing information about their ancestors. A DVD is also included.

The Margaret Stuntz papers also include research on John Beveridge, Ellis Buck, DeKalb County, the Farnsworth Family, William Gamble, Dr. Abner Hard, Harvey Augustus Humphry, 8th Illinois Calvary, Illinois Calvary Rosters, Marcellus Jones, William H. Medill, Theodore Stull, Henry Sheldon, and Silas Wesson.

HISTORICAL SKETCH

Margaret “Peggy” Stuntz writes and directs plays for the McHenry County Historical Society which puts on a historical play once a year. She has been involved with 7 plays, from 2003 to 2009. The plays depict historical significant residents of McHenry County in an educational and humorous manner.

SUBJECT TRACINGS

Barber, Lucius
 Bennett, George Washington
 Cernocky Sr., Louis
 Civil War
 Eighth Illinois Calvary
 Farnsworth, Colonel John
 Harvard
 Heaven City
 Historical Plays
 Kirkland.
 Kirkland Historical Society
 McHenry County Historical Society
 McIntyre, Winifred May Lincoln
 Moore, Alfred J.
 Stuntz, Margaret

COLLECTION INVENTORY

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
1	1	The George W. Bennett Wake-Play, 2003 (26 photos, 7 negative strips)
	2	Winifred May (Lincoln) McIntyre Wake- Play, 2004 (42 photos, 3 negative strips)
	3	Research: Lincoln, 2004
	4	Wake of Lucius Barber-Play, 2005 (2 photos)
	5	Wake of Lucius Barber-Play, 2005 photos (48 photos)
	6	Wake of Lucius Barber-Play, 2005 "Encore" (9 photos)
	7	Haunted Seance- Play, 2006 (20 photos)
	8	Haunted Seance- Play, 2006 (66 photos)
	9	The Trial of Anna Kunsch of Fox River Grove 1925-Play 2007 (16 photos)
	10	McHenry County (The Story of Heaven City), 2008 (13 photos)
	11	McHenry County (The Story of Heaven City), 2008 (46 photos)
	12	Research: Heaven City Articles, 1922-2003
	13	Research: Heaven City- Hibbard, n.d.
2	1	Kirkland, IL- "Then and Now", 2007
	2	Kirkland, IL- "Then and Now", 2007- video
	3	Riding Into History - Play-Kirkland, IL, 2009
	4	Riding into History - Play, 2009 (photos)
	5	Historic Halloween Play - 2009 (5 photos)
	6	CD: Riding into History - 3 video clips and photos (Photos from historic Halloween play)
		Research:
	7	John Beveridge, n.d.
	8	Ellis Buck, n.d.
	9	DeKalb County, Illinois, n.d.
	10	Farnsworth Family, n.d
	11	William Gamble
	12	Dr. Abner Hard, n.d.
	13	Harvey Augustus Humphrey, n.d.
	14	History- 8 th Illinois Cavalry, n.d.
	15	Illinois Cavalry Rosters, n.d.
	16	Marcellus Jones, n.d.
	17	William H. Medill, n.d.
	18	Others, n.d.
	19	Theadore Stull, n.d.
	20	Henry A. Sheldon, n.d
21	Silas Wesson, n.d.	