

# NEWSPAPER ARTICLE

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**Section: "Paging Back"**

**Posted as suggestion and request of  
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Photos provided

**ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS** in the La Salle County Genealogical Society's history was the opening of its building at 115 W. Glover St. in Ottawa. The building is shown before (above) and after its renovation. The facility was dedicated with an open house in 1994.



# History organizations have plans for spring

## Genealogical Society gets into the roots of history

By JANET LUNDQUIST

Staff Writer

You can learn how to get around problems experienced in your search for your family's roots, find out the value and history of an old personal item and learn the ins and outs of the county recorder's office during the next few months with the La Salle County Genealogical Society.

The society meets on the third Saturday of each month, except in December, at 1 p.m. at 115 West Glover St. It is open Mondays and Saturdays 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Founded in 1979, the genealogical society was associated initially with the La Salle County Historical Society, and was incorporated as a non-profit organization in July 1986.

The society has records, books and other resources available to the public, including old telephone books and city directories, 40 bound volumes of old county newspapers, marriage and probate records and books on history and genealogy.

Members record county obituaries on index cards and keep a file, along with a collection of year-end editions of local newspapers which list the names and dates of deaths occurring that year.

In its first meeting of the new year, the society will present Marje Gapinski, longtime member of the

guild and former editor of the guild's newsletter, "The Genie's View."

Gapinski will help those present with any problems they have encountered in their surname research. Also, audience members can tell how they solved their individual problems.

The public is encouraged to write down family histories and bring them to be filed alphabetically for the benefit of future generations. The society has dozens of these unique personal documents.

In February, Terri Clemens will help audience members figure out the history, age and estimated value of old personal items.

Clemens, a niece of Dorothy Clemens, vice president of the society, has been appraising antiques for several years.

She ran an antique shop in Lexington, Ill., and for 10 years and clerks at auctions in Mazon. She is the author of "A Price Guide to American Family Farm Antiques."

On March 15, Margaret Shalter will make a return appearance to explain the workings of the recorder of deeds office.

Ms. Shalter took a group of genealogical society members through the office last February, helping them learn to use record books. During her March visit, she will not take members on a tour of the office.