Reorganization, standardizing storage and digitation of PTHS archive for selected segments

The Plain Township Historical Society volunteers have embarked on this project. We have encountered a couple of snags that required us to rethink our approach. There was a 3-month delay in getting our UEI from the Federal Government. In order to keep the project on track, the Board of Directors authorized the use of general funds to purchase the items covered by the grant until which time we received our UEI and could be reimbursed. Part of the decision on going ahead, was concern that there could be delays in receiving the items covered in our grant request. As it turns out, this was the case. As of July, we received all of the items covered by the grant request and our UEI.

In May the volunteers started sorting through part one of the grant, reorganizing and scanning our land section storage and abstracts. All 36 sections were reviewed, consolidated, duplicates removed, and labeled according to our naming standards. Also, we were able to scan 27 abstracts, which is over half of what we have. On average each abstract is 30 pages in length. As of August 1st, these abstracts were made available online. [https://preservingplaintwp.org/property-abstracts/](https://preservingplaintwp.org/property-abstracts/) The Gaylord Storage boxes for this part of the grant did not arrive until July. We are planning on completing this part of the grant in September. Since we were able to scan the quantity of abstracts in one session, we have decided to go ahead and scan the rest of the abstracts which is about 15 left to do. When this is completed in September, all of our abstracts in our collection will be available online.

The scanning of the two scrapbooks is scheduled for October. In July, we had to stop and “protect our assets” instead of working on the grant. Our archives were relocated in our storage area and tarped to protect them from a plumbing issue. As we move items back, we are going to take this opportunity to move critical items out the plumbing area. During this process, we will start to use the Gaylord banker’s boxes to consolidate and reorganize areas of our collections that have grown. This process is to start in mid-August.

The budget for this project was $1,641 which was mainly for a portable scanner and Gaylord supplies. All of these items were received by July 4th. To date, we have 60 volunteer hours towards our match goal of 88. We have used our matching supplies of Gaylord Archival Reinforced Full 1" Tab Legal File Folders to reorganize the land section records (see attached photos.)

Due to the delay in getting our UEI number, we have not fully released information about this grant opportunity. We have included references to this grant in our monthly newsletters starting in March 2022 and these newsletters are available on our website. [https://preservingplaintwp.org/pths-newsletter-archive/](https://preservingplaintwp.org/pths-newsletter-archive/) We also have included OHRAB in our collaborative partner list that is on our website and is displayed at our monthly meetings and community events.
Land Section Storage Area

Before Grant Project  
After First Work Session  
After Second Work Session

Plain Township-Historical Society
Aurora for Historical Information on Plain Township, Stark County, Ohio

Property Abstracts

A property abstract is a chronological account of the ownership of a property. They are not the same as a deed which describes legal ownership. Abstracts are really only necessary when historically there was legal ownership or when ownership (two or more individuals) the property was split and were passed to the new owners. This local obligation was terminated in the late 1960s and abstracts are not used legally today.

Property abstracts contain a wealth of information about the property and, often, the families who owned the property through the years. Sometimes they contain genealogical information about the family and may even contain a map of an existing well.

Each section of Plain Township had, at one time, many abstracts as there were many property owners in each section and an abstract was required for each individual property. When they were no longer legally required many people simply kept the abstracts with the legal papers for their homes, but they were not updated anymore.

The documents are not kept by any governmental agency, you are encouraged to request a copy of the one you want to research and are somehow familiar, you may find an abstract which has not been donated. The McKinley Presidential Library and Museum and the North Canton Historical Society have some abstracts in their archives.

Here is a list of what we have (P: digital copy available):

- Section 1 Northwest Quarter Abstract - Monument 50’ N 73’ 08” east 110’ p.
- Section 2 Southeast Quarter Abstract - Monument 50’ N 73’ 08” east 110’ p.
- Section 3 Northeast Quarter
- Section 4 Northwest Quarter
- Section 5 Northeast Quarter Abstract - Monument 50’ N 73’ 08” east 110’ p.
- Section 6 West Half Abstract - Extra Quarter Bluffs 50’ N 73’ 08” east 110’ p.
- Section 7 West Half Abstract - Extra Quarter Bluffs 50’ N 73’ 08” east 110’ p.
- Section 8 Southeast Quarter Abstract - Monument 50’ N 73’ 08” east 110’ p.
- Section 9 South Half Abstract - Extra Quarter Bluffs 50’ N 73’ 08” east 110’ p.
- Section 10 South Half Abstract - Extra Quarter Bluffs 50’ N 73’ 08” east 110’ p.
- Section 11 Northwest Quarter Abstract - Monument 50’ N 73’ 08” east 110’ p.
- Section 12 Northwest Quarter Abstract - Monument 50’ N 73’ 08” east 110’ p.

Preservingplaintwp.org Web Page for Online Access to Abstracts
Flyer for Meetings and Community Events

To promote, preserve and protect the heritage of Plain Township, Stark County. 501(c)3 non-profit.

Plain Township Historical Society

In Collaboration with:

PLAIN TOWNSHIP
PLAIN LOCAL SCHOOLS
PLAIN LOCAL SCHOOLS FOUNDATION & ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
STARK PARKS
SIDE STREET MKTS
MCKINLEY PRESIDENTIAL Library & Museum

OHMAR
OHIO LOCAL HISTORY ALLIANCE

Historic Ridgewood

STARK LIBRARY

Contact Us
Web: www.preservingplaintwp.org
Email: preservingplaintwp@gmail.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/PlainTownshipHistoricalSociety/
Donate online: www.starkcf.org/give-plain-historical

Meetings are held at Plain Township Offices - 2600 Easton St NE at 7:00pm unless otherwise noted the 3rd Monday of the month. No meeting in December. Check our website for a meeting schedule.