

McLean County Museum of History

Guides Collection

Processed by
JoAnna Mink
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Collection Information

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 box
COLLECTION DATES:	1871-2022
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

Scope

The Guides Collection includes pamphlets, brochures, and some newspaper clippings, written by the Chamber of Commerce and others, mostly to promote Bloomington and Normal. Many include maps, lists of businesses, statistics, and photographs of public buildings and spaces. Some publications in this collection relate to specific conventions or events held in Bloomington.

Box and Folder Inventory

Folder 1: McLean County

- 1.1 McLean County Business Men's Guide, 5 pp., nd.
- 1.2 McLean County, Illinois: What's in it for you!, Department of Business & Economic Development, Division of tourism, 1971[?], 2 copies.
- 1.3 71 Interesting, Amusing, Fascinating Facts About McLean County, brochure, WJBC, 1982.
- 1.4 "A Look at McLean County," *Pantagraph* special section, February 22, 1983.

Folder 2: Bloomington-Normal Guides, Miscellaneous

- 2.1 "In Bloomington, Illinois . . . in spite of a depression," small, folded pamphlet, undated.
- 2.2 "Welcome to Bloomington" by The Commercial Club, 8pp small booklet with railroad timetables, hotel, buildings theatres, movie houses, churches, parks, etc., c1912?
- 2.3 "Bloomington, Illinois, Charm City of the Corn Country," folded pamphlet, undated.
- 2.4 Map and Guide of Bloomington-Normal, 1941, prepared by *The Bloomington Journal*, large, folded.
- 2.5 Bloomington, Illinois: The Hub of the Corn Belt, pamphlet, c.1948.
- 2.6 Bloomington-Normal, Illinois: Living at its Finest, brochure courtesy of The National Bank of Bloomington, undated.
- 2.7 A Community Rich in Traditional American Living, pamphlet with map, 1953.
- 2.8 Bloomington, Illinois: Central Illinois' Greatest Shopping Center, pamphlet with map of Downtown Bloomington, August 1959.
- 2.9 *Time Focus on the People of Bloomington-Normal, Illinois*, 52 pp., 1965.
- 2.10 Directory of Civic Organizations, Twin City map and street guide, 1967.
- 2.11 Bloomington Is Your Place of Business, Bloomington Association of Commerce, pamphlet, undated.
- 2.12 *The Pride of Bloomington-Normal*, 2000[?], brochure, 19pp.
- 2.13 Historic Bloomington, Illinois: Destination Downtown, pamphlet with map, 2002.

2.14 Downtown Bloomington, Business Guide, pamphlet with map, 2022.

Folder 3: Bloomington-Normal Entertainment and Culture

- 3.1 What to see in Bloomington, pamphlet, undated, 31pp (2 copies).
- 3.2 Buyer's Guide, 1969-70, 19pp.
- 3.3 In & Around B-N, lists of venues by category.
- 3.4 What's Going On, tri-fold sheet of events and restaurant ads, July 1976.
- 3.5 What's Going On, tri-fold sheet of events and restaurant ads, March 1977.
- 3.6 Insider's Build to Bloomington-Normal, 2012.
- 3.7 Unstoppable Things to do in Bloomington-Normal, brochure, 2022.

Folder 4: Miscellaneous Articles

- 4.1 What to see in Bloomington, pamphlet, undated, 31pp (2 copies).
- 4.2 "A General Description of Bloomington and McLean County, Ills, 1871. On reverse is handwritten note dated April 10, 1872, regarding shipment.
- 4.3 "Bloomington, Illinois: Corn Belt City of Plenty," *Kiplinger Magazine*, October 1941, 26-28.
- 4.4 "City of Culture: Meet Bloomington, Illinois," Home and Life Magazine section of *Chicago Daily News*, January 19, 1952.
- 4.5 "Bloomington, Illinois," *Omar Caravan*, May 1953, 3-10, off-print and magazine cover.
- 4.6 *Omar Caravan*, May 1953. Full issue containing above article.
- 4.7 "Bloomington, Normal Area Plan Future," *Chicago American*, April 9, 1954.
- 4.8 "Bustling Bloomington-Normal Area Plans Future," The Daily Graphic section of *Chicago American*, April 9, 1954, 2 copies.
- 4.9 "Bloomington Story in 1890 N. Y. Paper," *Pantagraph*, January 8, 1966, 2 copies of original and 1 photocopy.
- 4.10 "Twin Buckle in the Grain Belt," *Flightime* [Ozark Airlines magazine], February 1978, 10-14 plus issue cover.
- 4.11 "Bloomington-Normal, Down the Road A Piece," *The [Peoria] Journal Star*, November 18, 1973.

Folder 5: The "Evergreen City," 1871

- 5.1 Booklet *The "Evergreen City," Bloomington, McLean County, Illinois, 1874*. Complete issue 65pp plus advertising pages. Fragile.

Folder 6: Bloomington, 1879

- 6.1 "Bloomington, Illinois," *The Daily Graphic: New York*, August 8, 1879. Article about Bloomington with several engraved illustrations. Donated by "Mrs. Dr. E. C. Hewitt, Normal." Original and photocopy.

Folder 7: Pocket Guide, 1886

- 7.1 *A concise Pocket Guide and Diary for Bloomington*, published by Galway & West, Bloomington, July 1886. "J. B. Detweiler" inscribed on front cover. Contains handwritten student expense records, as well as train schedules, etc.

Folder 8: Bloomington, 1890

- 8.1 *Bloomington, McLean County, Illinois: Its Situation; Its Industries; Its Advantages.* Ed. J. H. Burnham. The Bloomington Club, 1890. 65pp. Fold-out Birds-Eye View of Bloomington, Illinois attached to back cover. 3 copies.

Folder 9: Bloomington of To-Day, 1903

- 9.1 *Bloomington of To-Day: A City of Gigantic Enterprises.* Illustrated, 15pp.
9.2 Interior pages of above book, no cover.

Folder 10: Bloomington and Normal, 1905

- 10.1 Booklet *Bloomington, Illinois: A Model City, Its Industrial, Commercial and Social Interests, Remarkable Growth and Prosperity.* Baldwin Publishing Co., 1905. The Evergreen City of Illinois” and “Spring Souvenir 1905” on front cover. 32pp, information about Normal pp 30-32.

Folder 11: Bloomington Homecoming Celebration, 1907

- 11.1 Tri-fold pamphlet *Homecoming Celebration, Bloomington, Ill. , June 13, 14, 15, 1907.* 3 copies.

Folder 12: Bloomington Manufacturers' Exposition, 1911

- 12.1 Brochure *Bloomington Manufacturers' Exposition and Merchants' Festival, at Coliseum,* June 19-24, 1911. Souvenir Programme, Inscribed on title page: “Fran Vernon A Syfert, March 16, 1936.” 68pp.

Folder 13: Bloomington, 1917

- 13.1 Booklet *Bloomington, Illinois: The Ideal Convention City.* Association of Commerce. Photographs and brief captions of public buildings, list of restaurants, schedule of base ball games at Bloomington during 1917 season. Unpaginated, 3 copies.

Folder 14: Bloomington-Normal Newcomers' Club, c.1944

- 14.1 Brochure *The Bloomington-Normal Newcomers' Club,* Bloomington Association of Commerce, undated, unpaginated. “Mr. and Mrs. G. Bradford Barker, September 1944” written on front cover.
14.2 Coupons from The Wichmann-Rittmiller Coal Co., Austin's Standard Service, Bro Leen Cleaning Co., and Gerhart's for G. Bradford Barker.
14.3 Scrap Book Memories of Bloomington- Normal, 3 blank pages.

Folder 15: This Blooming Town, 1956

- 15.1 Brochure *Bloomington Manufacturers' Exposition and Merchants' Festival, at Coliseum,* June 19-24, 1911. Souvenir Programme, Inscribed on title page: “Fran Vernon A Syfert, March 16, 1936.” 68pp.
15.2 *This Blooming Town,* Ivan Light, 1956 47pp.
15.3 Typescript for *This Blooming Town,* 47pp.
15.4 “This Blooming Town: A Short Sketch of Bloomington, Illinois,” Ivan Light, 28pp typescript.

Folder 16: Bloomington Reports

- 16.1 Tri-fold pamphlet *Bloomington, Illinois: Facts and Figures*, Association of Commerce, January 1, 1930. 3 copies.
- 16.2 *A Survey of the Economic and Industrial Facilities and Advantages of Bloomington, Illinois*, New Industries Committee, Bloomington Association of Commerce, 1950. Cover reads "Bloomington and Normal, Illinois, A Century of Progress, 1850-1950. 27pp. 2 copies.
- 16.3 Statistical Digest, Bloomington and Normal, Illinois, foldout brochure, May 1, 1957. 2 copies.
- 16.4 *Bloomington: A Decade of Progress, 1958-1968*. 26pp.