

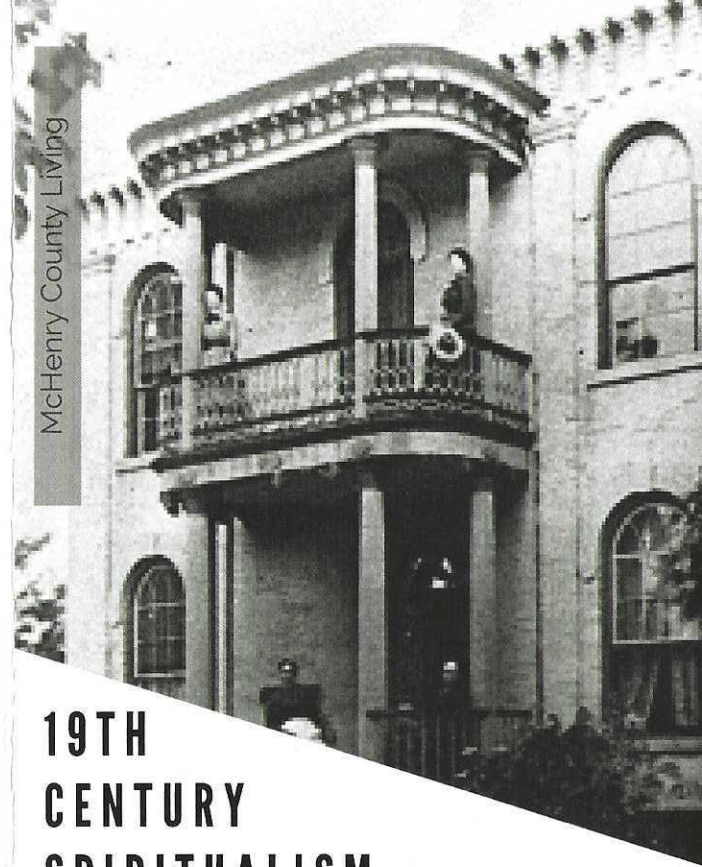
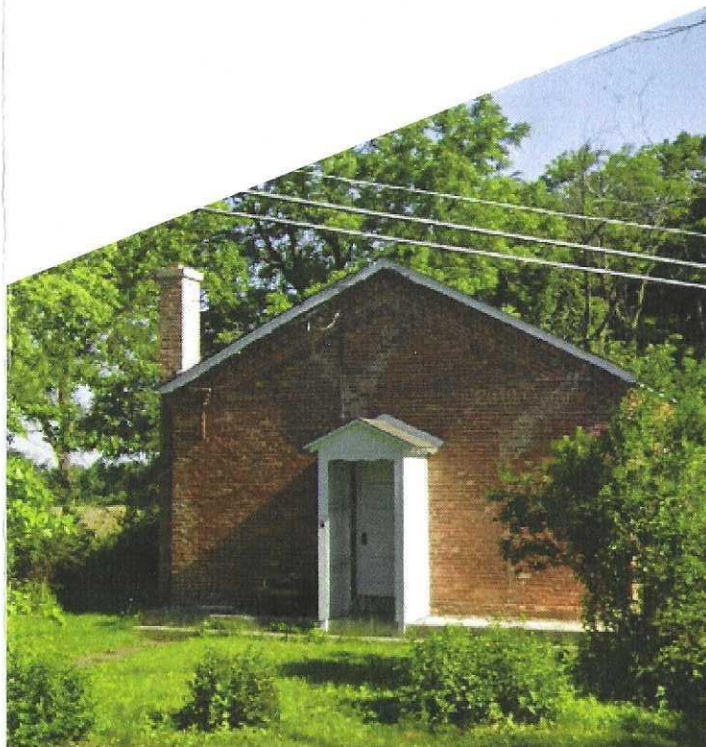
SETTLERS

George Stickney settled in Nunda Township in 1835 and soon after erected a humble log cabin. Samuel Terwilliger, Benjamin McOmber, Cameron Goff and William Holcomb followed soon after and, along with other early pioneers, worked together to make the land hospitable for their families. Within a few years they had plowed the land, established the first cemetery, and built the first schoolhouse for the education of the township's five school-age children. Stickney built a formidable home for his family in 1849: the "House with Round Corners" that stands today.

STICKNEY HOUSE

ONE-ROOM SCHOOLHOUSES

The early settlers of Nunda Township were quick to build a one-room schoolhouse for the education of their children. In 1839 a log schoolhouse was erected just south of their homes, in Section 18. The first teacher, Armenda McOmber, was paid \$1.25 per week to teach her five pupils. In 1841 the log schoolhouse was moved west, and in 1858 a new brick schoolhouse was built to replace it. The school was in full operation until 1946 when, like many one-room country schools of the time, it was closed due to consolidation. The structure still remains as a reminder of the early days of this small community.



19TH CENTURY SPIRITUALISM

In the mid 19th century, Spiritualism was a widely popular ideology with as many as 11 million followers across North America. Followers believed in channeling voices of the dead as a means of connecting with the past, while imagining new futures in the spiritual and physical worlds. The Stickneys were among the most devout Spiritualists in the area. Their faith informed the design of their prominent home on Cherry Valley Road, built with no square corners to prevent spirits from being trapped within. The Stickney House endures as a valuable monument to what was once an important way of life for 19th century Americans.

PHASE

2nd Floor Renovation:

- Conversion of ballroom to interpretive gallery for historic displays and local artists
- Work and office spaces for Stickney House Administration Team

PHASE

1st Floor Restoration:

- Historic restoration of front parlors and dining room into event spaces ready for small receptions
- Continuation onto South Lawn including seasonal tent for receptions and outdoor celebrations

PHASE

Full House Activation:

- Fully develop 'Living with the Land Center'
- Construction of 1st floor information center
- Design and Construction of exterior glazed two story elevator tower along east façade

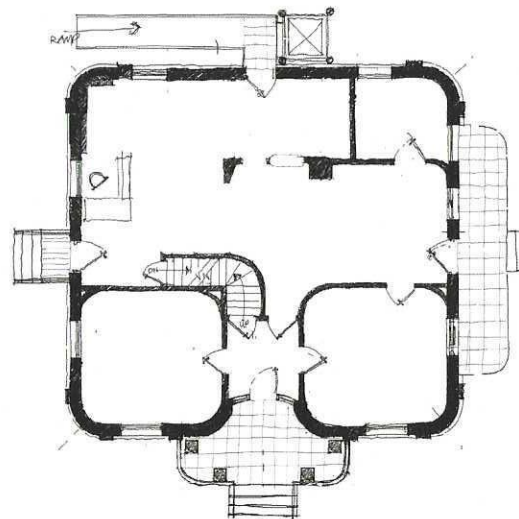


CONTACT

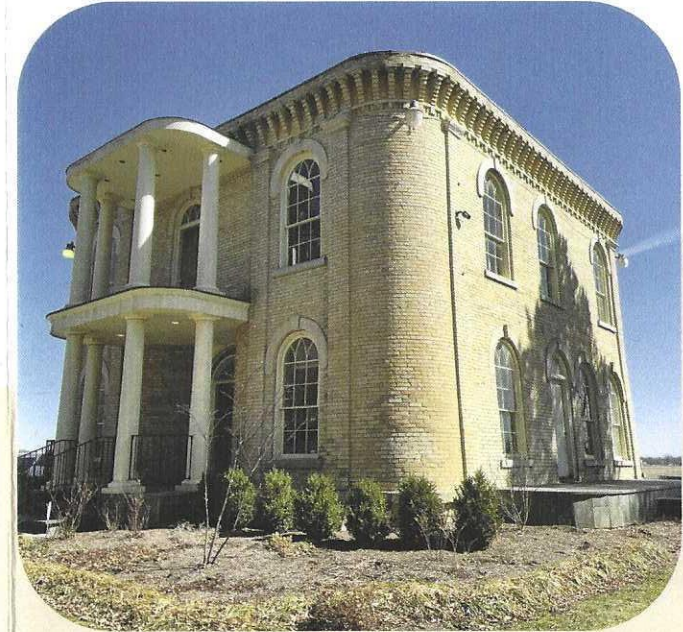
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STICKNEY HOUSE



The Living with the Land Initiative aims to attract new life to Stickney House and Farmstead, making it a center for community activity and education. By offering new opportunities to interact with the area's natural resources, the site will contribute to Bull Valley's philosophy of conservation and stewardship. As a site for outdoor recreation, the Stickney Farmstead and Cherry Valley Trail will connect with existing and proposed trails included in the McHenry County 2030 Comprehensive Plan, contributing to the regional plan for land use. With new commercial uses, the Stickney House and Farmstead will become a self-sustaining hub for ecotourism and eco-education, deepening the harmony between life and land.