

Wisconsin Historical Society ARC Centers

By Bob Heck MPAFUG

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1. Wisconsin Historical Society

- Founded in 1846 and chartered in 1853, it is the oldest historical society in the United States to receive continuous public funding.
- Officially called the State Historical Society of Wisconsin (SHSW).

2. Organized into four Divisions

- The Division of Museums and Historic Sites,
- The Division of Historic Preservation-Public History,
- The Division of Administrative Services.
- The Division of Library-Archives

3. The Division of Museums and Historic Sites

Old World Wisconsin at Eagle, WI

Old World Wisconsin:

Making Irish Soda Bread

4. Archives and ARC

- The society's archives serve as the official repository for state and local government records.
- The society coordinates an Area Research Center Network, to make most of the archival collections accessible to state residents.
- ARC Centers are set up at 14 UW Colleges throughout the State.

5. Map of ARC Centers & Counties they serve

6. ARC Center UW Locations

7. Example of Poster found: 19th Wisconsin Infantry Recruitment

8. UW Parkside Racine & Kenosha Co. Typical of most ARC centers

- Birth, Marriage & Death Records

- Citizenship Records 1st & 2nd Papers
- Maps, Atlases & Land Records
- Tax Records, Census Records, Directories
- Records of Local Institutions, Local Court Records.
- Manuscripts, Diaries, Letters
- Local Business Records
- Digital Photographs

9. UW River Falls ARC: Typical Records found in all ARC centers.

- Birth, Marriage, Death
- Cemetery Records, Census Records, Church Records
- City Directories, CCC, County Records, Court Records, JP Records, Family History, Farm Records, Land Records, Maps, Plat Maps
- Naturalization Records, Newspapers, Obituaries, School Records, Photos, Tax Records

10. UW Green Bay Archives ARC

UW Whitewater ARC

- UW-Whitewater is responsible for the materials of Rock, Jefferson, and Walworth Counties.
- Vital Records, Citizenship Records
- Court Records, Probate Records
- Census Records, Land Records
- School Records, Plat Books

11. So What's a Plat Book?

12. Tax Search UW Parkside 1856-1884

- Tax Search at Parkside University ARC Center
22 FEB 2017
- 1856 Peter McNulty, Brighton, Kenosha County, Township 2 N Range 20 E-1/2 SW ¼ Section 23, 80 Acres, Value \$480, Town Tax \$3.87, County Tax \$1.88, State Tax \$2.57, School Tax \$0.41, Collectors % \$0.43, Total Tax \$9.16.

- 1857 Widow Zerneck Not Assessed in 55, Brighton, Kenosha County, Township 2 N Range 21, NW-1/4 SW 1/4 Section 11, 40 Acres, Value \$60, Town Tax \$0.26, County Tax \$0.17, State Tax \$0.23, School Tax \$0.12, Road Tax \$0.29, Collectors % \$0.06, Total Tax \$1.13. Taxes for 1855: Town Tax \$0.26, County Tax \$0.18, State Tax \$0.23, School Tax \$0, Road Tax \$0, Collectors % \$0.03, Total Tax \$0.70.
- 1857 Peter McNulty listed as Peter McEnutly, Brighton, Kenosha County, Township 2 N Range 20 E-1/2 SW 1/4 Section 23, 80 Acres, Value \$640, Town Tax \$3.25, County Tax \$2.78, State Tax \$2.74, School Tax \$3.28, Collectors % \$0.60, Total Tax \$12.65.
- 1858-1859 Peter McNulty, Brighton, Kenosha County, Township 2 N Range 20 E-1/2 SW 1/4 Section 23, 80 Acres. Paid taxes both years.
- 1876 Henry Heck, Personal Property Tax, Dover, Racine County, Valuation \$75, State, County, Town Tax \$0.60, School District Tax \$0.30, Total Tax \$0.90.
- 1876 Henry F Henningfeld, Personal Property Tax, Burlington, Racine County, Valuation \$800, State, County, Town Tax \$4.54, School District Tax \$2.86, Total Tax \$7.40.
- 1877 Peter McNulty, Dover, Racine County, Township 3N, Range 20E, Section 34, Part S part E1/2 NE1/4, 1/2 Acres, Value \$100, State, County, Town Taxes \$0.99, School District Tax \$0.42. Total tax \$1.41.
- 1878 Peter McNulty, Dover, Racine County, Township 3N, Range 20E, Section 34, Part S part E1/2 NE1/4, 1/2 Acres, Value \$75, State, County, Town Taxes \$0.74, School District Tax \$0.34. Total tax \$1.08.
- 1879 The land described as , Dover, Racine County, Township 3N, Range 20E, Section 34, Part S part E1/2 NE1/4, 1/2 Acres, Was sold to Henry Keller who paid the taxes on it on 31 DEC 1879.

- 1879-1884 Peter McNulty, No record of being taxed in Dover, Racine County.

13. 1877 Dover, 3N, 20E, Sec 34, S Part E 1/2 , NE 1/4, 1/2 acre

14. Plat map of Kansasville, Dover TWP, Racine County

15. Widow Zerneck 1856 Paris Twp, WI So how much did the widow Zerneck pay in taxes in 1856?

- She owned 40 Acres of land in Paris, Kenosha County, Wisconsin.
- She was not assessed in 1855 so she had to pay for 1855 and 1856.
- She paid \$0.62 for 1856 and \$0.61 for 1855.
- She married my great-great grandfather, Johann Heck, in 1856, after she paid the taxes.

16. Interesting, but what good is that?

- The tax record shows that her land was in Township 2N, Range 21E, Section 11, NW-1/4 of the SW-1/4, containing 40 Acres.

17. Substitute for the 1890 Census?

- The 1890 Census was destroyed by fire.
- Using Tax records you can at least find if your ancestor was still living.
- You can also find where he or she was living.
- Taxes were generally paid at the end of every year.

18. My "Favorite" Expression

- "Sorry, the records are not available because the Court House burned down."
- Does that mean that people didn't have to pay taxes after it burned down?
- How did you reconstruct the property owner, location, land value and previous tax payments?

**19. Declaration of Intention for Peter McNulty.
Found at UW Parkside ARC**

**20. Marriage Record found in UW Milwaukee
ARC Center**

**21. Obituaries found in Sauk County Records at
UW Madison ARC**

22. Photo Collections at ARCs

**23. Hand written notes from a 1936 Burgess
Family Reunion: UW Parkside**

**24. The Orphan Train brings children West
from New York for adoption.**

25. Probate Record from UW Parkside

26. Wisconsin Historical Society in Madison

27. Inside the Main Reading Room

28. Wisconsin Historical Society in Madison

- Wisconsin Historical Society in Madison is the ARC Center for Dane, Sauk, and Columbia Counties.
- Has nearly four million items, making the society's collection the largest in the world dedicated exclusively to North American history.

29. Collections at the Library in Madison

- Extensive newspaper collection is the second largest in the United States after the Library of Congress.
- If you have Wisconsin ancestors you need to search their newspaper collection on microfilm.

**30. There are 12 levels of books and
publications.**

31. There is an Archives for special collections.

32. Visual Materials in Their Collections

- There are over 3 Million images in their photo archives area.
- Many of the photos are available on-line.

**33. At Right, William F Henningfeld, Blacksmith
at Waterford.**

**34. Children of Dorothea Henningfeld, William
Kortendick, and Eva Neumaier**

35. The 4th Floor is the Archives.

- Civil War Day Books are called the Blue and Red books, contain a regiment's day by day reports.
- Each soldier is listed.
- If sick, wounded, or on medical leave, he is listed.
- Deaths are also reported.

36. Found in the Archives

- I found a collection of letters between a Professor at Bonn, Germany and one at the University of Wisconsin, in which they were collaborating on a project to trace Germans from the Eifel Mountain region to Brighton, Kenosha County, Wisconsin.
- The collection included letters written by immigrants back to their home in Germany from the 1850's.

37. Conclusions

- If you have never been to an ARC Center or to the Wisconsin State Historical Society library, you are missing a Gold Mine of information.

38. Are There Any Questions?