

A Crossroads to the Future

It is very humbling to think that 185 years ago Robert Cross and other early settlers of Roscoe Township risked their lives traveling here in order to help establish a commercial and societal framework around which we could build meaningful lives.

Acknowledging the importance of that courage, over the past 15 months, our new Historical Society has coalesced around a single mission: to capture, curate, and disseminate important material and information relative to Roscoe. This is a short report on our work.

The cornerstone of our work has been the restoration of the Cross homestead, purchased by the Township in 2018; it is our goal for the original brick structure to embody the 1840s era in which it was built. It, along with the 20th Century annex will serve as a modest museum, while playing host to our evolving programmatic initiatives that highlight Roscoe individuals and institutions, past and present.

We are grateful to the Township for its trust; together we will work to craft a showplace and the creation of exemplary public-use-spaces (pictured at right).

We thank those individuals and organizations whose names appear in our honor roll and invite others reading this report to join their ranks in the coming year by contributing to the Preservation Fund.

Historical societies by their nature illuminate and preserve those things from the past in order to inform and validate our present lives (that if done right) can help us chart and define our futures.

To that end, I invite you to explore our website at www.Roscoehistory.org. Then let us know how you might find your place in our work.

With a new roof installed on the home, here's to a successful 2020! Thanks so much.

Bern Sundstead

Unaudited Revenue and Expenses

Fiscal Years 2018 & 2019

Revenue	
Goods and Services	18,785
Gifts of Cash	14,405
Total Revenue	33,190
Expenses	
Business Expenses	851
Contract Services	572
Capital Improvements	13,550
Operations	927
Total Expenses	15,900
Net Income	17,290

Timeline Snapshot

2018

- Oct. 13 – Robert J. Cross Park Dedication
- Oct. 22 – RTHS holds organizational meeting
- Nov. 4 - Society submits application for 501(c)(3)
- Nov. 9 – Society receives Federal ID Number
- Nov. 13 – Society files IL articles of incorporation
- Nov. 15 – Society applies as Illinois Charitable Org.
- Dec. 12 - Township purchases Cross Homestead
- Dec 14 - Society holds first public gathering

2019

- March 2-3 – Display at RoRo Expo
- June 24 – Official notice of 501(c)(3)
- August 20 – Illinois Sales Tax Exemption
- Sept. 5 – Receive architectural renderings
- Sept. 6 – RTHS Preservation Fund established
- Sept. 6-8 - Fall Festival tent display and parade
- Sept. 14 - Inaugural Cemetery Walks
- Nov. 18 - Highlights of History – Methodist Church
- Nov. 19 - RTHS signs 25 year lease with Township
- Nov. 20 - Apex & ABC Supply install roof on home
- Dec. 31 – Society completes first full fiscal year.



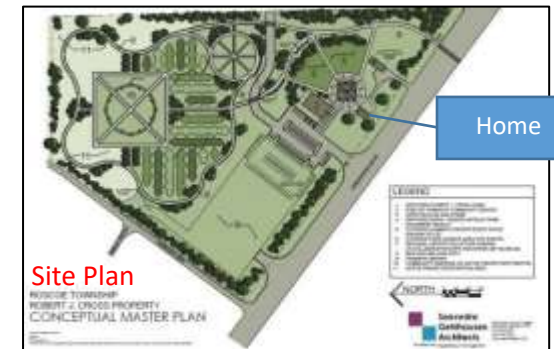
Blue Cross Homestead Circa 1940



Cross Homestead Current



Architect's Rendering



Site Plan



Roscoe Township Historical Society Mission

The Roscoe Township Historical Society is and independent, non-profit, 501 (c) (3) designated public charity whose mission is the study, preservation and dissemination of Roscoe Township history.

All gifts made to the Historical Society are tax-deductible to the extent provided by the Internal Revenue Service.

Roscoe Township Historical Society Board

Bern Sundstedt – President
Michele McAfee – Secretary
Dawn Cassady – Treasurer

Mavis Benkovich – Board Member
Elizabeth Lindquist – Board Member
James McAfee – Board Member
Philip Rhymer – Board Member
Laura McAfee Zwart – Board Member

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Phone – 815.828.6107

Website – www.roscoehistory.org
Facebook - @RoscoeTownshipHistoricalSociety
Instagram - roscoetwphistory

Honor Roll of Donors (FY18 & FY19)

January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2019

Historian Level (\$1 - \$49)

JoAnn Beaver
Elizabeth Lindquist
Jim McAfee
Michele McAfee
Lawrence and Hazel Ralston
Phil Rhymer
Jody Weldon

Explorer Level (\$50 - \$99)

Kristi Niemi
Wendy Ralston Osberg
Elizabeth Ralston
Rockton Township Historical Society

Trailblazer Level (\$100 - \$149)

Koslofski Family Trust #506
Joan Robare
Stephen Schmaeng

Pioneer Level (\$150 - \$249)

Dawn Cassady

Founder Level (\$250 - \$499)

Mary Jane Ralston Alexander
Cheryl Campbell

Visionary Level (\$500 - \$999)

Dean and Marilyn Mohring
Duane and Deanna Ralston
Laura McAfee Zwart

1835 Society (\$1,000 and up)

ABC Supply Company – Roscoe
Apex General Contracting
Raun and April Flowers
Forest City Gear
Janice Ralston Ptacek
Bruce Ralston
Harold Ralston
Richard Ralston
Debora Ralston Sorensen
Bern and Cindy Sundstedt
J. Vincent Toscano
Jason Yapp