

Challenge Grant helps start restoration of log courthouse

Jan. 10, 2014 5:56 AM |

pal-item.com

Due to the generosity of Wayne County residents, an important historical site will receive skilled preservation treatment. The 1812 log courthouse in Centerville is Wayne County's first of six buildings especially built for a courthouse. It was originally built in Salisbury, moved to Richmond and later moved to two different locations in Centerville. The log courthouse now sits on the Mansion House property at 214 E. Main St.

Over the years the more than 200-year-old logs have been damaged by decay, weather and insects. The repairs by skilled preservation experts are very expensive, estimated at nearly \$40,000. Thanks to the Challenge Grant from the Wayne County Foundation, almost half of the money was raised in November 2013.

Thanks to the Palladium-Item for the coverage of the Challenge Grant. Although we made a strong effort to inform the public about the need, the newspaper's articles were a great help in publicizing our project.

Without the generous contributions of the donors, we would not be able to proceed with the needed preservation for the log courthouse. Thank you for caring about an important Wayne County historical site. We will continue to raise the almost \$20,000 to complete the job which should start in 2014 and donations are always welcome.

Carolyn Lafever for the Fundraising Committee and Board of Trustees,

Historic Centerville Inc.