

Holt House



A Brief History

On April 28, 1867, a group of female Monmouth College students gathered in the southwest bedroom of the house owned by Major Jacob Holt. It was in Ada Bruen and Libbie Brook's second floor, rented bedroom where the women's fraternity movement began with the founding of a secret society named I.C. Sorosis by 12 young Monmouth students. The group's Greek motto was "Pi Beta Phi," which would eventually become the organization's formal name.

Preserving our History

Today, Holt House is a vital part of the Monmouth community and is available for use by groups for gatherings. In early spring of 2009, the Fraternity applied to the Illinois State Historical Society for Holt House to be recognized as a historic landmark in the state of Illinois and on October 8, 2009, the Holt House Committee hosted a dedication ceremony for a historical marker, which is now permanently placed in the southeast corner of the front yard.

Holt House was intended not as a monument to our own achievements, but as a modest shrine to mark our humble beginnings. From the present chapter membership to distinguished alumnae, Holt House's inviting atmosphere is a special place for all Pi Phis to celebrate our history.

To view the Holt House video visit the Fraternity's YouTube® page, <http://www.youtube.com/pibetaphihq>

Fundraising and Donations

Individuals, chapters and alumnae organizations should send donations directly to Pi Beta Phi Foundation, designated for Holt House. Individual donations are tax-deductible. Individuals may also designate planned or deferred gifts to Holt House.

FT1 and FT2 forms for chapters and alumnae club can be downloaded from www.pibetaphifoundation.org or the Resource Library.

Please mail donations to Pi Beta Phi Foundation, PO Box 801867, Kansas City, MO 64180-1867, and make sure to put Holt House in the memo line of the check.

For more information on Holt House, please contact Illinois Alpha Denise Turnbull, Curator of Holt House, at holthouse@pibetaphi.org.

Visiting Holt House

402 East First Avenue
Monmouth, Illinois 61462

Hours

Wednesday and Friday 9 a.m.–5 p.m.
Other times by appointment

Phone (309) 734-3988

Email holthouse@pibetaphi.org