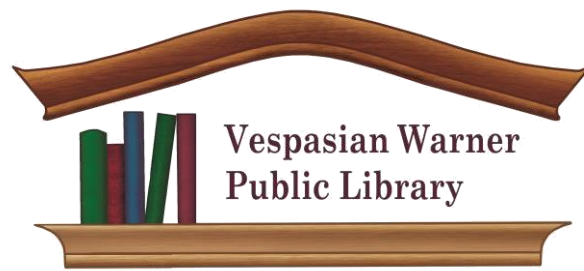


## COLLECTION SUMMARY

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| <b>Collection title:</b>   | Wapella Tornado                          |
| <b>Dates:</b>              | 1968                                     |
| <b>Size:</b>               | 1 box                                    |
| <b>Shelf location:</b>     |  |
| <b>Creator/Collector:</b>  | Various                                  |
| <b>Acquisition info.:</b>  | Unknown                                  |
| <b>Accruals:</b>           | None                                     |
| <b>Custodial history:</b>  | Unknown                                  |
| <b>Language(s):</b>        | English                                  |
| <b>Repository:</b>         | Vespasian Warner Public Library District |
| <b>Processed by:</b>       | Jenny Freed, 2009; Trisha Benedict, 2022 |
| <b>Conservation notes:</b> | None                                     |



## **RIGHTS AND ACCESS**

### **Access restrictions**

Collection is open for research. The collection or parts of the collection may not leave the library building.

### **Physical access restrictions**

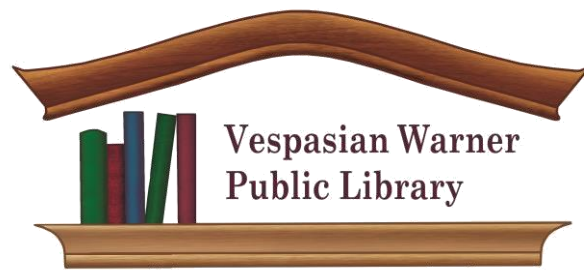
None

### **Technical access restrictions**

None

### **Publication rights**

The Vespasian Warner Public Library does not establish copyright for items.



## INFORMATION FOR RESEARCHERS

### **Preferred citation**

[item identification], Wapella Tornado, Vespasian Warner Public Library District, Clinton, Illinois

### **Related collections**

Wapella Collection Inventory

### **Separated material**

Scrapbooks

### **Published descriptions**

Not applicable

### **Location of originals**

Not applicable

### **Location of copies**

Not applicable

### **Publication note**

Not applicable

### **Subject headings**

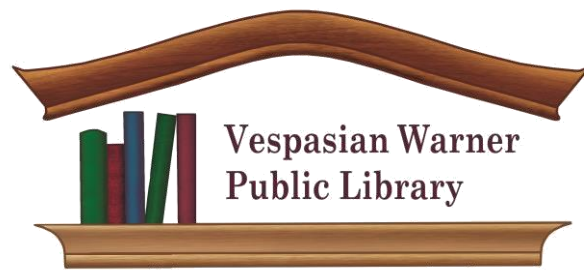
Tornadoes – Wapella (Ill.)

Natural disasters – Wapella (Ill.)

DeWitt County (Ill.) – History

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Photographs and documents related to a tornado that hit Wapella, Illinois May 1968.



| Wapella Tornado Collection Inventory                     |                       |                          |
|--|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| All 1968 unless otherwise stated*                        | <b>Box<br/>Number</b> | <b>Folder<br/>Number</b> |
| WHOW Personal Messages A-K                               | 1                     | 1                        |
| WHOW Personal Messages L-Z                               | 1                     | 2                        |
| WHOW News Bulletins                                      | 1                     | 3                        |
| WHOW Weather Bulletins pt 1                              | 1                     | 4                        |
| WHOW Weather Bulletins pt 2                              | 1                     | 5                        |
| Corner Café Photographs (2)                              | 1                     | 6                        |
| Main road damage photographs (4)                         | 1                     | 7                        |
| Girdler's car and house photographs                      | 1                     | 8                        |
| Damage on Oak Street photographs (4)                     | 1                     | 9                        |
| Photos donated by Jenny Wagner (20) - labelled           | 1                     | 10                       |
| VFW photographs (2)                                      | 1                     | 11                       |
| Irish Circle photographs (2)                             | 1                     | 12                       |
| JW Brown House (2)                                       | 1                     | 13                       |
| South from west of ICRR and unidentified photographs (2) | 1                     | 14                       |
| Main street and Alley & Grain elevator photos (2)        | 1                     | 15                       |
| Wapella Grade School & Unknown 'across the tracks' (2)   | 1                     | 16                       |
| Wapella Grade School rear & Unidentified (2)             | 1                     | 17                       |

|  |   |    |
|--|---|----|
| Wapella Tap & “Street scene” (2)   | 1 | 18 |
| Unidentified & Railroad Tracks (2)   | 1 | 19 |
| Auction House 4 & Unidentified (2)   | 1 | 20 |
| Auction House 3 & Unidentified (2)   | 1 | 21 |
| East towards Helen’s Café on Main St, Unidentified Street, & Unidentified buildings #2 (3) | 1 | 22 |
| Auction House 5 & Unidentified (2)   | 1 | 23 |
| Methodist Church (2)   | 1 | 24 |
| Masenwinkle  | 1 | 25 |
| Car at Irish Pub & Helen’s Café (2)  | 1 | 26 |
| 2 unidentified photos  | 1 | 27 |
| Grain elevator 2 & George Westbrook home (2)   | 1 | 28 |
| Main Street West & Mollett Home and Street (2)   | 1 | 29 |
| Delaney Lumber & Leo Mollett home 2 (2)  | 1 | 30 |
| Unidentified & Spray house (2)   | 1 | 31 |
| Newspaper- <u>Pantagraph</u> “Spring not just flowers—It’s tornadoes, too” 1973            | 1 | 32 |
| Newspaper- Decatur Herald “Damage From Tornado Still Scars Wapella” 1972                   | 1 | 33 |
| Photographs of damage (6)  | 1 | 34 |
| Richard Geddes Storm Photographs with envelope (9)   | 1 | 35 |
| Photo Negatives – storm damage film strip  | 1 | 36 |
| Photo Negatives - tornado damage (14)  | 1 | 37 |
| Photographs – Storm damage (90) - Gift of George Spray                                     | 1 | 38 |
| Shorthand notes on radio script – Shorthand translation by Paula Jo Nelson                 | 1 | 39 |
| Home with wall, roof sheared away, L.S. Wickenhauser truck in yard (2)                     | 1 | 40 |

|  |   |    |
|--|---|----|
| Scattered wreckage, possibly barn  | 1 | 41 |
| Man inspecting wreckage of house   | 1 | 42 |
| House with roof damage   | 1 | 43 |
| Remains of farmstead scattered across field  | 1 | 44 |
| Farmstead with collapsed silos, roof damage to main barn, outbuildings on fire   | 1 | 45 |
| Tree damage  | 1 | 46 |
| House with roof removed and piled near porch   | 1 | 47 |
| Farmstead with house and outbuilding wreckage, tractor attempting to straighten power pole                               | 1 | 48 |
| Lineworkers replacing damaged pylons   | 1 | 49 |
| Piles of dissociated boards, tractor and implements flipped over and destroyed, crumpled pylon in background             | 1 | 50 |
| House missing roof, exterior walls   | 1 | 51 |
| Scattered components, contents of multiple houses and outbuildings   | 1 | 52 |
| Roofless collapsed barn with hayloft, unclear if structure to the right is 2 <sup>nd</sup> barn or 2 <sup>nd</sup> story | 1 | 53 |
| Roofless house with chimney  | 1 | 54 |
| Trailer park wreckage  | 1 | 55 |
| Pile of wreckage next to house with light damage   | 1 | 56 |
| Wrecked farm equipment   | 1 | 57 |
| Piles of wreckage surrounding bare foundations   | 1 | 58 |
| Farmstead wreckage with flooding   | 1 | 59 |
| Residential street with damaged vehicles, piles of debris  | 1 | 60 |
| Wreckage of house with “Keep Out” sign   | 1 | 61 |
| Unidentified rubble surrounded by vehicles   | 1 | 62 |
| Undamaged pylon  | 1 | 63 |

|  |           |    |
|--|-----------|----|
| Collapsed pylon with possible grain bin skeleton                   | 1         | 64 |
| Irish Circle building missing roof, rear half of building          | 1         | 65 |
| 2-story house with sheared-off wall, roof                          | 1         | 66 |
| House in process of collapsing                                     | 1         | 67 |
| Wreckage near grain elevators, featuring kitchen sink              | 1         | 68 |
| Roofless house partially stripped to foundation, armoire unscathed | 1         | 69 |
| Scrapbook containing photos, newspaper clippings of tornado        | oversized |    |