

Chapter 1 : ILLINOIS QUILT HISTORY -- Community by Community

Illinois has the largest recoverable bituminous coal reserve of any state in the United States-close to billion tons. Chicago's Willis Tower, formerly named Sears Tower, is the tallest.

It was a subscription school. They talked about a school and said they wanted me to teach it, and John Dawson came to me and I drew up the subscription paper and he took it around. It began about May 1, , and it was running on when I was married. The next morning after the wedding I began teaching again. Dawson had just built a new log cabin and he gave the use of it for the school term and lived on in his old one till school was out. How many scholars did you have? Well, a good many more than the old settlers book gave me credit for, which said I did not have but three or four scholars at the start. I had a small school, but not as small as that. How many is that? Seventeen, counting Caroline Rhodes, of whom you were not sure. Well, that is all I can think of. An Almanac for a Text-Book What school books did you have? They had Websters spelling book with blue backs. One boy brought an almanac, having no other book. Geography and grammar I did not teach. We sent to Springfield for the writing paper, which was not ruled, and wrote with good quill pens. If I had as many dollars as I have made goose quill pens, I should have all the money I would care to use in my lifetime. I ruled the paper, set the copy and made the pens. Well, my husband and I staid [sic] at my fathers for a while. In the fall of or early winter, Milton Stringfield, a brother of Alfred and son of the parson who married us, had to go to Sangamon county on business, and he got my husband and myself to come to his house in the west end of Blooming Grove and stay with his wife while he went to Sangamon County. We went and staid there all winter. Our cabin was built in March, It was a good large cabin sixteen feet square or sixteen by eighteen, I forget which. It stood between three hundred and four hundred yards west and a little south of where James Allin afterward built his double cabin and kept his store was timber and across the creek upon the high knoll the timber was heavy. Around to the northwest of the cabin, north of that high knoll, was a small, scattered grove or clump and directly north was the little grove standing out by itself, called the Celebrated Grove and the One Mile Grove. The latter name was given it because the distance between it and Bloomington Grove was just one mile. Major settled in this grove and it was known as Majors Grove. How far did your husbands claim extend? I do not know exactly. It was a claim of one hundred and sixty acres and I think our cabin was near the west end. I do not know how far north it run, but think it went north of the knoll where the new court house stands. How near were your neighbors? We had no near neighbors. Hodge lived two and one-half miles southeast of us and Milton Stringfield one mile and one-half west of us on the same side of the grove. This was in the spring of Between that and , while we lived there, William Goodheart, John Canady and another William Evans settled near us. Evans took the claim just east of us. He was no relation, however. The Bloomington court house is on the spot now. I went on it often after my cows, and I hardly ever got back without two or three rattlesnakes hissing at me. Rattlesnakes and wolves were my nearest neighbors and the ones I saw the most of. They came to the settlers to trade for corn, wheat, beans, salt, meat, etc. They were generally peaceful, but I was always afraid of them. Pioneer Clothing People, men and women, wore a great deal of home-spun linsey-woolsey for women and sort of jeans for the men. There were some few who wore buckskin, however. I remember seeing Jonathan Thorp and Jesse Egnon coming to church at John Hendrix house with buckskin pants and coonskin caps. I was at the first Methodist class organized at John Hendrix house after I was married. I was a member of that class. Parson James Stringfield organized it. We lived there till the spring of , when we came on to the Mackinaw on the north side of the timber, west of where Lexington now is. Whom did you sell out to? To James Allin, but what the price was I do not remember. Did you know he was buying it for a town site? Yes, sir, that was the understanding. We came up on the Mackinaw on the 28th day of March, , and lived in a tent for a while till another cabin was built, and we raised a good crop that year. We lived here six years, and then sold out in and went to Grundy County, Missouri, but I never lost my love for Bloomington Grove. I loved its scenery and its people and often when here on visits would look back till the last tree was out of sight. We lived in Missouri till , then moved to Iowa, and left there for Texas in , where my husband died in I lived there some years and came back January 20, , traveling alone. Evans is

seventy-two years of age but very active for her years. She is small, well proportioned and has evidently had a wiry, elastic constitution, capable of great endurance, though with no great amount of muscular power. Her eyes are blue and she wore a black cap over her silvery hair. Her complexion is light and her features regular and in her youthful days she must have been pretty. Her memory of the past is clear and sharp. She rarely hesitates over a date and never over a name, giving proper names in full without difficulty. Nancy Biggs My sister taught the first school in the summer of ; the next was taught by Dr. He taught in a new log school house, just built, about a mile north from John Hendrix's house. That was in the winter of or , I am not sure which. William Hodge was the next teacher. Hodge let us study out loud. He was an old-fashioned teacher. A lot was left out where the light came in and one writing desk was an included slab under it, where the light fell on our paper and we could see. The school house was about eighteen feet square. There were two doors, one on the north and one on the south. The east end was nearly all cut out about six feet high for the fire-place. The chimney was built up outside a frame foundation; was built up to the mantle and from there up where the draught began was of split sticks and clay. They dug down for clay and threw water on it and tramped it with horses or oxen in a pit, then they threw it on a table and mixed cut straw or prairie hay with it to make it stick. Then the builder stood inside the chimney and laid on a round of split sticks and then daubed mortar on both sides like plaster. It would stick pretty well, especially on the inside. The scholars, boys and girls, thought it big sport to roll logs into the door and up to the fireplace. We used to roll back logs that were two or three feet through and six feet long for the fireplace was extra wide. The fire kept all right from night till morning and over Sunday. At the schools taught by Dr. Tribue and William Hodge we studied reading, writing, spelling, and arithmetic. If we could not get those quills to make pens of, we used turkey quills. We made our own ink by boiling water maple bark down, straining it off and adding a little sugar and copperas. It made splendid black ink. He took occasion to write the following letter which is full of information on "the old pumpkin vine" and railroad lore as only a veteran railroader could tell it. February 9, Editor. I was then just a kid, at exactly the right age to think that smoking cigarets and chewing tobacco was evidence that one who could take it, had reached manhood. At age 18 I took over the job at the old engine house, as we called it. My job was to clean the coaches and engine of the passenger train that tied up in LeRoy at that time, keep a sharp eye on the company property through the night, then fire up the engine and have the train ready when the crew came on duty in the morning. But before this I "played hookey" from school, wiped the jacket, hoed the ash pan for the fireman, and just about worked my head off, all for a ride out to Sabina or at whichever station the local met the passenger, and then fire the passenger engine back. At that time, to me, a locomotive was the most wonderful thing on earth as was a horse to many of my chums at that time. To me, at age 12 or 14 the greatest thing the world held for me was to be a locomotive engineer, and I was determined to be an engineer. Later I went firing on this line and that is the main reason why I was so much interested in the picture and the item mentioned. Sabina was the first station stop on the line out of LeRoy although there was a side track called "Crumbaugh" at which we sometimes picked up or discharged some passengers, and I well recall that at the time the station building at Sabina was an old discarded box car. I recall, too, that the building in the picture, was formerly the depot at Henning and was moved to Sabina after the Henning office was done away with. But it is a long, long road from the and other engines of that day with their 16xinch cylinders and pounds boiler pressure to the present engines with their 30xinch cylinders and their pounds boiler pressure, and even now larger and more powerful engines are being developed on the drafting board and will soon be on the road.

Chapter 2 : WEIRD ILLINOIS / HAUNTED ILLINOIS

Illinois Stories Tue, 11/12/ - From the Decatur Celebration and the Farm Progress Show to the storied ferris wheels of Jacksonville; from Lincoln's footsteps in Springfield and New Salem to the historic barns of the Macomb area; from the river heritage of Quincy and Hannibal to the bounty of the richest farmland on earth, Mark.

The southern part of the state is characterized by wooded hills, farms, underground coal mines, strip mines, and low marsh lands. The Crab Orchard Wildlife Refuge contains many different wildlife including deer, geese, ducks, owls, wild turkeys, and many other bird species. Fifteen State Parks, recreation, and conservation areas are located within the region see Sites and Recreation. The earliest inhabitants of Illinois were thought to have arrived about 12,000 B.C. They were hunters and gatherers but developed a primitive system of agriculture and eventually built rather complex urban areas that included earthen mounds. Their culture seemed to die out around 800 B.C. The Illini Indian tribes, after whom the state is named, and other Indian tribes arrived in Illinois around 1000 A.D. Archeologists are not certain if these Indians were related to the previous inhabitants. They left behind all manner of artifact including burial sites, burned-out campfires along the bases of bluffs, pottery, flints, implements, and weapons. Interesting structures that were built by Indian tribes are known as stone forts or mounds. At least eight other structures are known in the region. The French were the first Europeans to reach Illinois in about 1674. When they arrived, the Indians welcomed them. It was French explorers who gave Illinois its name by referring to the land where the Illini Indians lived as the Illinois. The French explored the Mississippi River, establishing outposts and seeking a route to the Pacific Ocean and the Orient. Because of increasing Indian unrest and warfare in northern Illinois, the French concentrated on building outposts in the southern part. The earliest European settlers in Southern Illinois concentrated along the Mississippi, Ohio, and Wabash rivers at the southern end of the state. Their settlements became important way stations and supply depots between Canada and ports on the lower Mississippi River. Their rule of this area was short lived. During the American Revolution in 1776, the state of Virginia backed a military expedition led by 23 year old George Rogers Clark. Landing at Fort Massac in Illinois which was abandoned a decade earlier, his force of soldiers marched across Southern Illinois and defeated the English at forts in Kaskaskia, Illinois and Vincennes in western Indiana. This laid the claim by the Americans to this territory. When news of the conquest by Clark reached Virginia, it claimed Illinois as one of its counties. Virginia ceded the county of Illinois to the federal government in 1792 when it realized that it could not govern so sparsely populated and distant land. Non-French speaking settlers were slow to arrive in Illinois probably less than 2,000 non-Indians lived in Illinois in 1790. But soon thereafter many more settlers came from the backwoods areas of Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, Georgia, and the Carolinas. These early settlers were of English, German, Scottish, and Irish descent. They chose to settle in the southern part of Illinois as its wooded hills reminded them of the mountains they left behind. They found an abundant amount of wood and lived off the land; growing some crops, fishing, and hunting for game. Illinois became a part of the Indiana Territory in 1800. Illinois settlers wanted more control over their own affairs and Illinois became a separate territory in 1809. On December 17, 1811, a great earthquake awakened the settlers in Illinois with a violent trembling. Fields rippled like waves on an ocean. Trees swayed, became tangled together, and snapped off with sounds like gunshots. In some places sand, coal, and smoke blew up into the air as high as thirty yards. People as far away as Canada and Maryland felt the tremors. It was reported that the earthquake shook so violently that tremors were felt as far away as Boston. It was reported that this earthquake made the Mississippi River flow backward momentarily. The river changed its course in several spots as a result of the earthquake as new islands appeared and others disappeared in the river. The earthquake is estimated to have been equivalent to an 8. Fortunately, few people lost their lives because the quake centered in a sparsely populated area. Called the New Madrid fault, seismic activity is a threat to this region today. There was very little violence in the Illinois frontier. Murders and violent assaults were rarely reported. However, for a few decades there were bandits and river pirates operating along the Mississippi and Ohio rivers. On the Ohio River, these bandits and pirates often located in or near Cave-in-Rock, a natural cave facing the river. The bandits and pirates added to the hazards and uncertainties of

pioneer life and made settlers eager to have law enforcement agencies nearby. In the U. Congress approved an Act that enabled the Illinois territory to become the 21st state of the Union. Immigration to Illinois increased after it became a state as more settlers arrived from New England and foreign countries. These settlers tended to migrate to central and northern Illinois, causing a noticeable Yankee influence in northern Illinois as opposed to the southern influence in the southern region due to a majority of settlers coming from southern states. The states population exploded from 40, people in to , in The census reported that , people lived in Illinois. Early statehood problems engulfed Illinois. In the s the state was near bankruptcy because of government financing of canals and railroad construction. The national financial panic of added to the states problems before the prosperity of the s relieved this situation. The most likely reason this region is known as Little Egypt is because settlers from northern Illinois came south to buy grain during years when they had poor harvests in the s just as ancient people had traveled to Egypt to buy grain Genesis In , Congress passed a bill permitting the removal of all native Indians living east of the Mississippi River. For the next 20 years, Indians were marched west to reservations in Arkansas and Oklahoma, including the bands of the Illini Indians in Illinois. In the Fall and Winter of , Cherokee Indians were marched out of Georgia and the Carolinas across Southern Illinois to reservations in the west. It was estimated that 2, to 4, Cherokee men, women, and children died during this 1, mile journey west. It became known as the Trail of Tears due to the many hardships and sorrows it brought to the Indians. The first bank to be chartered in Illinois was located at Old Shawneetown in The first building used solely to house a bank in Illinois was built in in Old Shawneetown and was used until the s. The Old Shawneetown State Bank has been restored as an historical site. Cotton and tobacco was grown in the extreme southern region of Illinois. Cotton was grown mostly for the home weaver, but during the Civil War enough cotton was grown for export since a regular supply of cotton from the South was not available. Enough tobacco was grown to make it a profitable crop for export. Cotton and tobacco are no longer grown for export in the region. Other crops grown for export included maple syrup, honey, grapes, roots, berries, crab apples, plums, persimmons, mushrooms, nuts, fish, deer, fowl, hogs, cattle, and poultry. The invention of the steamboat greatly expanded the profitability of crops exported from Illinois. The County of Saline was named for its ancient salt works along the Saline River. It attracted deer, buffalo, and antelope that obtained salt simply by licking the mud banks along the river where Indians and the French made salt. From until their was commercial production of salt that produced as much as bushels a day. The owner of one of the salt works built a large house in the s on the Saline River near Equality, known today as the Old Slave House. Still standing, its small attic rooms were thought to be used to house slaves or indentured servants who toiled in the salt works. Even though it was prohibited since the s under the Northwest Ordinance that established the territory, slavery continued in Illinois. Indian tribes were the first to have slaves usually captives from another tribe and the French introduced it in the s. Laws were passed in Illinois after it became a territory in and later when it became a state, which allowed people to own indentured servants in Illinois, an equivalent to slavery, and other laws were enacted that prohibited people from coming to Illinois for the purpose of freeing their slaves. Many of these Black Laws or codes remained on the books until the end of the Civil War. As many of the original settlers in Southern Illinois came from southern states, many had pro-southern sympathies and a fear that freed blacks would flood into their new homeland. The underground railroad existed in Southern Illinois but was not as active as in other parts of the state. The Civil War caused many families to have divided loyalties.

Chapter 3 : Illinois Quilt History -- Quilt History Stories -- Rushville, IL

Historical Illinois Stories. Outsiders were upset upon hearing stories of plural marriage. The Illinois History Project is a special project of ILGenWeb.

What is a Signature Quilt? Unlike a signed quilt, which has only one signature, a signature quilt has multiple names on it. Friendship â€” a signature quilt with the same block pattern repeated throughout the quilt; created by friends or family as a keepsake. I did not go to a private seller, a quilt broker, an antique quilt shop, an antique mall, or an estate sale; I took a chance and purchased this quilt off of E-bay. In , I had bid on another E-Bay quilt, a turn-of-the-century Signature Friendship Quilt from the Macomb, Illinois area, which did have the signatures of four of my Parks ancestors on it. At the last minute, I was outbid, but it appeared I was about to get another chance to reclaim a family artifact when the Rushville signature quilt came up for auction. This time I won the auction. After some investigation and consultations with our family genealogist who has the Parks family traced back to the English crossing, I discovered the chances of Algerena being a relative were slim, but it was too late, I was hooked and needed to know the history of my Schuyler County Illinois quilt and the stories behind the thirty women who came together to create it. Setting Research Goals Before you embark on a research project it is important to decide what it is you wish to accomplish. Along the way I hoped to accomplish the following objectives: My first worksheet is a vital information sheet, which contains the following information: Unknown at the time Research would reveal it was created between Acquisition Source: Sampler patterns listed on separate worksheet Signatures on quilt: Embroidered signatures â€” embroidery thread The second worksheet is a list of the names of the 30 women who created and signed a block, listed as they appear on the quilt. My fourth, a family group worksheet, was created when I discovered many of the women on this quilt were related and could be broken into family clusters. I took 35 mm photographs of the entire quilt from three different angles and then a photo of each of the 30 signed quilt squares, scanned those photographs into my computer, and saved them to jpeg files. Using the subject dividers with tabs, I created an individual section in the 3-ring binder for each of the 30 women with their names written on the tabs and put a copy of the photograph of their square in their sections. System set up, I could finally begin the research process. Researching a Signature Quilt When doing this type of research work there are three excellent resources available to you: Internet Contacts The Internet is an amazing tool, giving online access to research information and searchable databases without ever having to leave your home. Looking at the names on my signature quilt I turned to Algerena Parks because of her unique first name. The three most promising sites for me with online searchable Schuyler County History databases were: Croxton Family History Site [http:](http://) I e-mailed the 5 people listed under Tomlinson asking if they were related to Grace Tomlinson and kept this up until I had searched through the entire list of 30 women who had signed the quilt. I also discovered four more general Internet sites with searchable databases: Rootsweb Site â€” Home Page [http:](http://) When working with the census records, be aware name and spellings can vary from census year to census year e. Algerena Parks, in one census might be listed as A Parks in another. Some people might even go by their first name in and their middle name in or the maiden name in and their married name in There is also another factor to consider when dealing with censuses, some of these individuals were first generation Americans, so depending on who gave the census taker the information and if the census taker recorded the name information correctly, name variations are something a potential researcher needs to be aware of. Individual Contacts Writing the dealer who sold me the quilt on E-bay a detailed e-mail about my research project, I requested any additional information she had on the quilt. The quilt had been stored in a trunk with three others and had originally belonged to her parents Reverend Harold Milton Cady and his wife Mabel Calvert Cady. With photos, obituaries, family stories, and relative contacts the information started pouring in. Individuals who no longer lived in Rushville, Illinois, but still got their hometown newspaper, were sending information to me on behalf of their ancestor too. Several people, who contacted me with short notes, shared one very important piece of information; one of the ladies on the quilt was living. As of , Wilma Gaddis Long is in her nineties and living in a nursing home, but due to health issues Wilma was unable to help me with any

information about the quilt. Organization Contacts Once you discover the origin of your quilt, the next step is to contact organizations in the county the quilt came from. Where do you start? My favorite place is the public library. I sent a letter to the Rushville Public Library, Rushville, Illinois explaining my research project and asking them for their advice on the best place to start my research in their county. Congress, Rushville, Illinois

You want to know something about Schuyler County history and genealogy; these are the people to see. This directory was an excellent helpmate to me after discovering the majority of the women on my signature quilt were farm wives. The Schuyler County Courthouse – County Clerk Office in Rushville, Illinois was another valuable tool; for a fee you can obtain birth, marriage, and death certificates. You contact the WIU – IRAD Department with an information request and a graduate student or WIU staff member looks up the information you need – they do not charge for research, but they do charge for copies [http: Research Results](http://www.wiu.edu/irad) As of January , several of my research goals have been met. It has an approximate date of verified by the fact Gladys Tomlinson Gaddis was married in and Bessie Walker Shaver passed away in Like me, the majority of these 30 ladies were farm-women with the exception of Mamie Fey Howard, who was a school teacher who lived on a farmstead with her husband, who was an automobile salesman during the Depression. There are several family groups and multi-generations within these family groups who contributed to creating this quilt. My first 3-ring binder has expanded to four as I continue to discover new information about each of these quiltmakers and add it to their individual sections. I have not discovered why this quilt was created and whether these ladies got together and quilted on a regular basis.

Chapter 4 : History of Ghost Stories - HISTORY

From the vast collection of the Chicago History Museum to small town historical museums, you'll discover the stories and heritage of our towns and our people. Historical Reenactments History comes alive at Illinois historical reenactments.

When Shields confronted Abe Lincoln, Abe accepted responsibility for the article and Shields challenged him to a duel. They, along with their seconds, rowed out to a small island in the Mississippi. Once there, Shields, who was a very small man, became upset because Abe, as the challenged, had chosen broadswords as weapons. What had upset Shields was the sight of Abe, who had removed his coat and was brandishing a broadsword to limber up. The sight of the tall Lincoln swinging the broadsword and shouting was just too much for Shields. In June of 1830, William J. Lester, who owned the Southern Illinois Coal Company, fired the union mine workers and hired non-union workers. He read in a newspaper that the SICC had started to use non-union workers and he knew immediately there would be trouble. He gathered all the participants and urged Lester to close the mine, but Lester refused. A truck carrying strikebreakers was ambushed and three men were hospitalized. It was reported that several hundred union miners were meeting in a cemetery near Herrin and that they were buying and stealing guns and ammunition. The union miners surrounded the mine and began firing at the strikebreakers who fired back. Since a truce could not be reached, it was agreed that the mine would be closed and that the strikebreakers would be given safe conduct out of the county. When officials tried to enforce the truce, they discovered that the strikebreakers had surrendered and the miners were marching them toward Herrin. They were easy to follow as they left a trail of dead and wounded—nineteen were killed and this incident came to be known as The Herrin Massacre. In 1892, when the country was in depression, George M. Pullman, founder of the Pullman Car Company, lowered the wages of his workers. The high salaries paid to company bigwigs continued and dividends actually increased. When the workers asked that their salaries be returned to their previous level, they were told it was impossible and that the company was keeping them on even though it was losing money. They also voted to refuse to handle Pullman cars until Mr. Pullman agreed to arbitration. An injunction was issued against anyone interfering with the railway and the Attorney General sent troops to Chicago, even though there had been no violence by that time. On July 7 a crowd gathered at the railroad yards and a federal officer gave the order to fire; four men were killed and twenty others were wounded. President Cleveland issued a proclamation for the crowd to disperse or to face martial law to which Debs responded by issuing a plan for a general nationwide strike on July 12. Debs and others leaders were arrested for contempt and the strike was broken. There were many results following the strike: The Mormon religion began in with Joseph Smith when Smith said an angel revealed to him the location of nine golden plates buried 1,000 years before. The plates supposedly told of the migration to America by the Indians who were descendants of the ancient Hebrews. From these plates emerged the Mormon church. Joseph Smith soon had a following but the group faced a lot of persecution. Converts began to settle at Nauvoo and soon the city had a population of 20,000, and was the largest in Illinois. The group was granted an unprecedented autonomy which enabled them to have an independent militia. Very soon jealousy and fear of the Mormons by the Gentiles and internal squabbles among themselves created an explosive situation. Outsiders were upset upon hearing stories of plural marriage. As things worsened, Joseph Smith allowed himself to be put in jail at Carthage under the protection of the governor, Thomas Ford. However, those guarding the jail were working with a mob that soon formed and broke into the jail where Joseph Smith and his brother, Hyrum Smith, were murdered on June 27, 1844. Bishop Hill Colony in northern Illinois was founded by a group of Swedish religious dissenters in 1839. They were led by Eric Janson. The settlers arrived in the fall and built temporary shelters on the side of a ravine. Ninety-six of them died the first winter primarily from inadequate food and shelter. In the next few years they built a mill, began making bricks, started a school and the colony became a major center of commerce. The members of the colony were sober, industrious, and had little time for anything other than work or church. The colony suffered a major setback in 1844 when a man named John Root murdered the leader, Janson. One side supported the policies of Olof Johnson which were

anti-Janson and the other side supported the policies of Jonas Olson which were pro-Janson. The colony was dissolved during the Civil War and all the property divided equally among the members. When Marquette traveled down the Mississippi in , he was the first white man to see the Piasa Bird which was painted on a Mississippi River bluff above where Alton is now situated. Farther Marquette wrote in his journal: The bluff was destroyed for railroad ballast in . On May 1, , workers in Chicago and other industrial centers joined a strike opposing long days and advocating the 8-hour day. More than 40, Chicago workers participated with a lot of attention being given to McCormick Harvester. When officials from McCormick brought in outside workers, they only intensified the situation. A bomb exploded which killed seven policemen and injured a hundred others. The next day, newspapers called for justice against the men responsible for the riot. Eight persons who had been active in the labor movement were accused, tried, and found guilty. One of the eight committed suicide and four were executed while the remaining three stayed in prison. A movement began asking that the three remaining men be pardoned because they had been unfairly tried and their rights violated. Oglesby refused the pardon. When John Peter Altgeld became governor, he took the matter under consideration and after reviewing the case, he pardoned the three men. The Chicago fire effected many changes in Chicago and one of those was the creation of Grant Park. After the fire, the city needed an area to dump debris and refuge [sic]and they finally decided to dump it into Lake Michigan. That debris formed much of the land that later became Grant Park. At age 7 her parents moved to Texas and established Fort Parker in . In the were killed in a raid by the Comanches and Kiowas, and Cynthia Ann was kidnapped by the Comanches and lived with them for the next 24 years. After she was rescued by the Texas Rangers during the Battle of Pease River in December , she was returned to her family. Unfortunately, she never adjusted to white society and ran away several times. She died in . Her Comanche name was Naudah and she had several children with a Comanche, one of whom grew up to become a war chief, Quanah, who waged war against Texans for many years. He participated in the inauguration parade for Teddy Roosevelt and had a town named for him. He died in . In he was reburied with his mother and sister in Fort Sill Cemetery in Oklahoma.

Chapter 5 : Historical Illinois Stories | ILGenWeb

The Illinois Veterans History Project was launched by Secretary of State Jesse White to create a permanent record of the names and stories of Illinois war veterans and civilians who served our state and country during war, so that their contributions will not be forgotten.

Senate against Stephen A. A debate was held in seven towns in Illinois, one being near Jonesboro in Southern Illinois. The Lincoln-Douglas debates garnered national attention as telegraph stories were printed in newspapers throughout the East. Although Douglas won the election, these debates made Lincoln famous beyond the borders of the state that helped lead to his election as President in 1860. Since many of the people living in Southern Illinois were first or second-generation Southerners and since the region was loyal to the Democratic Party which opposed the War, the Civil War caused mixed loyalties in this region. Most young men from the region joined the Union army, but a small contingent joined Confederate Regiments in the South. Many people took pride in the fact that the Union was led by an adopted native son, Abraham Lincoln, and the state provided over 100,000 soldiers to the Union army. It also was the weapons manufacturer, supplier of iron products, and major grain and meat supplier for the North. Cairo, Illinois, at the southern tip where the Ohio River joins the Mississippi, was of strategic importance. On either side of the rivers were states that were sympathetic and supplied troops to the Confederate army. Cairo also served as a staging area for Union Army expeditions into the Confederate states of Missouri, Kentucky, Tennessee and Mississippi. The first garrison to occupy Cairo were from the 8th, 9th, 10th, and 12th Regiments of the Illinois Volunteer Infantry, many of whom were volunteers from Southern Illinois. A few months later, local Congressman John A. Logan, D-Illinois, received the commission of Colonel in the Union Army and recruited the 31st Regiment of the Illinois Volunteer Infantry that was made up almost entirely of recruits from the southern counties of Illinois. The 31st Regiment fought in the campaign to rid Missouri and Kentucky of Confederate soldiers but was involved in only a few skirmishes. However, this action gave new recruits the training they sorely needed for future campaigns. Logan and the 31st Regiment fought with General U. Many of the river gun boats and support craft used in the Civil War against the Confederacy on the Cumberland, Tennessee, and Mississippi rivers were built or refitted at the docks in Mound City on the Ohio River in Southern Illinois. Not everyone in Illinois backed the Unions war effort. Called Copperheads because they struck without warning like the deadly snake, violent gangs committed all manner of outrages. One gang, called the Clingman gang, was finally chased out of Southern Illinois by angry residents. A clergyman and several other dignitaries, including General Logan, participated in the ceremonies. This was one of the first organized observances of what we now call Memorial Day. Later, General Logan became the national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, the largest and most influential organization of Civil War veterans. In 1866, General Logan ordered all GAR posts to observe May 30th as a day of remembrance, which eventually became a national holiday. Cairo became the staging area for blacks arriving from the South after the Civil War, but many did not find what they expected. There was little work for blacks and they did not have enough money to buy farms. Many returned to the South and became sharecroppers. Concerned about public education after the war, the Illinois General Assembly authorized and funded advanced training and education of public school teachers by authorizing among others, the Southern Illinois Normal University at Carbondale in 1867. After achieving full university status including degrees of higher education in many fields and being nationally known as an institution of research, it changed its name to Southern Illinois University in 1909. Southern Illinois clay supplied the raw materials for brick manufacturers, used to construct buildings as the wood supply dwindled. By the 1850s, Illinois was exporting large quantities of bricks. Bricks made in Murphysboro were used in the construction of the Panama Canal. Fluorspar, a beautiful crystallized mineral used in the making of glass and steel in the early days and in fiberglass and welding rods later, was mined in Southern Illinois in Hardin County since before the Civil War. The federal government stockpiled Fluorspar for use in uranium enrichment. The mine is now closed. A feud between families in Williamson County, called the Bloody Vendetta, lasted nearly ten years and was responsible for many deaths. In all, there were assaults with a deadly weapon and murders in

Williamson County between and This was very unusual as crime was virtually non-existent in Illinois during its frontier years prior to this period of lawlessness. The existence of coal was known since , but commercial coal mining did not begin until near Murphysboro. By the mid s, coal miners were at work throughout Southern Illinois. The early years of mining coal were hard, dangerous, and did not pay the miners well. Attempts to organize miners were often met with resistance that caused bloody confrontations with mine owners in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Chapter 6 : 10 Unforgettable Stories History Forgot - Listverse

Illinois Ghost Sightings. These are the most recent ghost sightings in Illinois Oswego, Illinois - My best friend lives on Douglas Road right by the Harvest Church.

I strongly recommend you buy it if you want to read much more detail about the stories, people and places in this list. It is the largest archaeological site related to the Mississippian culture, which developed advanced societies in central and eastern North America, beginning more than five centuries before the arrival of Europeans. It is a National Historic Landmark and designated site for state protection. It is the largest prehistoric earthen construction in the Americas north of Mexico. It is also home to a wooden structure which appears identical in function to Stonehenge. At the high point of its development, Cahokia was the largest urban center north of the great Mesoamerican cities in Mexico. Although it was home to only about 1, people before c. In , its population was larger than that of London, England. This resulted in the greatest maritime disaster in United States history. The reason that this disaster was mostly forgotten by history is because it took place soon after the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln, and during the closing weeks of the Civil War. Most of the new passengers were Union soldiers, chiefly from Ohio and just released from Confederate prison camps such as Cahawba and Andersonville. The US government had contracted with the Sultana to transport these former prisoners of war back to their homes. The cause of the explosion was a leaky and poorly repaired steam boiler. Hot coals scattered by the explosion soon turned the remaining superstructure into an inferno, the glare of which could be seen in Memphis. Most people have never heard of Ziryab, yet at least two of his innovations remain to this day: He introduced asparagus and other vegetables into society, and made significant changes and additions to the music world. He had numerous children, all of whom became musicians, and spread his legacy throughout Europe. He could perhaps be considered an ancient Bach. The list of societal changes Ziryab made is immense – he popularized short hair and shaving for men, and wore different clothes based on the seasons. He created a pleasant tasting toothpaste which helped personal hygiene and longevity in the region, and also invented an underarm deodorant. He also promoted bathing twice daily. The October 8, , Peshtigo Fire in Peshtigo, Wisconsin, is the conflagration that caused the most deaths by fire in United States history. On the same day as the Peshtigo and Chicago fires, the cities of Holland and Manistee, Michigan, across Lake Michigan, also burned, and the same fate befell Port Huron at the southern end of Lake Huron. By the time it was over, 1, square miles of forest had been consumed and twelve communities were destroyed. Between 1, and 2, people are thought to have lost their lives. The fire was so intense it jumped several miles over the waters of Green Bay, and burned parts of the Door Peninsula, as well as jumping the Peshtigo River itself to burn on both sides of the inlet town. Surviving witnesses reported that the firestorm generated a tornado that threw rail cars and houses into the air. Many of the survivors of the firestorm escaped the flames by immersing themselves in the Peshtigo River, wells, or other nearby bodies of water. Some drowned while others succumbed to hypothermia in the frigid river. Nor indeed did Eannes discover the cape: In so doing, he opened new territory, not only on land but in the mind, and thus made possible the golden age of Portuguese exploration, with all its glories and horrors. At that time conventional wisdom maintained that the Sun was boiling hot at the Equator. Thus, even if a ship could get past Cape Bojador, the equatorial Sun would eventually burn it to powder. Furthermore, should a vessel somehow make it past all other hazards, its crew would most surely meet unspeakable monsters in the sub-equatorial region known as the Antipodes. By having the courage to risk his life consequently opening up new worlds, Eanes was effectively behind the European age of discoveries to come. He was, however, also in part to blame for what would become a thriving trade in slaves for centuries after. He wrote a set of Resolves that served as the blueprint for the first autonomous American government. He delivered a speech that sparked the first battles of the Revolutionary War. He was the only Patriot leader, prior to the Declaration of Independence, to risk his life against the British on the Battlefield Sandler And, remarkably, he has been largely lost to history. He was surrounded by names we are all familiar with, and yet his own name is barely ever heard these days. He painted mostly religious scenes lit by candlelight. After centuries of posthumous

obscurity, during the 20th century, he became one of the most highly regarded of French 17th-century Baroque artists. In his lifetime he was known as the Painter to the King of France, and was regarded as one of the greatest artists. Very little of his work survives and the reason for his obscurity is unknown, but thanks to the efforts of Hermann Voss, a German scholar, his work was rediscovered. During the exercise, an Allied convoy was attacked, resulting in the deaths of American servicemen. The lack of widespread knowledge of this exercise was due to intentional efforts unlike most others on this list. As a result of official embarrassment and concerns over possible leaks just prior to the real invasion, all survivors were sworn to secrecy by their superiors. Ten missing officers involved in the exercise had Bigot's level clearance for D-Day, meaning that they knew the invasion plans and could have compromised the invasion should they have been captured alive. As a result, the invasion was nearly called off until the bodies of all ten victims were found. With little or no support, from the American or British armed forces, for any venture to recover remains or dedicate a memorial to the incident, Devon resident and civilian Ken Small took on the task of seeking to commemorate the event, after discovering evidence of the aftermath washed up on the shore while beachcombing in the early s. Because of terrible congestion on Broadway, Alfred Ely Beach the young owner of the fledgling magazine Scientific American conceived of an idea to build an underground railway, which used a giant fan to propel and suck a railcar back and forth through a tunnel. Because of the corruption of the commissioner of public works, William Tweed, Beach had to get consent to build his tunnel by pretending it was to be a mail delivery system. Tweed whose income was derived largely from city transportation did not veto the request. Beach and a small group of men began digging a tunnel under Broadway in the dark of night. The entire enterprise was kept secret, as dirt was hidden in the basement of a building Beach bought for that purpose. The work went well, but just before they could complete their first line the press got wind and it became public. He charged twenty-five cents per passenger to travel from Warren Street to Murray Street. It was a huge success carrying over 100,000 passengers in its first year of operation. Unfortunately Tweed was outraged and vetoed future extensions to the subway. Tweed was eventually imprisoned for his corruption, and permission was given for Beach to resume work extending the subway, but unfortunately his private investors were fast disappearing, due to the beginnings of an economic crisis. The subway was not completed and remained hidden under the city completely sealed up complete with the luxury car and machinery until it was subsumed into the present City Hall Station. Here is the route of the subway on Google Maps. It was a key institution in the Translation Movement, and considered to have been a major intellectual center of the Islamic Golden Age. The House was an unrivaled center for the study of humanities and for Islamic science, including Islamic mathematics, Islamic astronomy, Islamic medicine, Islamic alchemy and chemistry, zoology and Islamic geography. Drawing on Persian, Indian and Greek texts including those of Pythagoras, Plato, Aristotle, Hippocrates, Euclid, Plotinus, Galen, Sushruta, Charaka, Aryabhata and Brahmagupta the scholars accumulated a great collection of world knowledge, and built on it through their own discoveries. Along with all other libraries in Baghdad, the House of Wisdom was destroyed during the Mongol invasion of Baghdad, in 1258. It was said that the waters of the Tigris ran black for six months with ink from the enormous quantities of books flung into the river. The amount of knowledge lost that year is indescribable. It is even more surprising that while most people are familiar with the destruction of the library of Alexandria, few know about the loss of the House of Wisdom.

Chapter 7 : Illinois Stories | Network Knowledge

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Chapter 8 : Civil War and Late 19th Century in Southern Illinois

Since ancient times, ghost stories tales of spirits who return from the dead to haunt the places they left behind have figured prominently in the folklore of many cultures around the world. A.

Chapter 9 : Remembering Lisle Illinois - Stories, Photos, videos and History

With photos, obituaries, family stories, and relative contacts the information started pouring in. Individuals who no longer lived in Rushville, Illinois, but still got their hometown newspaper, were sending information to me on behalf of their ancestor too.