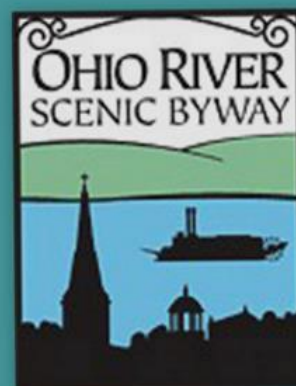




## PLEASE TAKE TIME TO VIEW THE HERITAGE SITES ALONG THE OHIO RIVER SCENIC BYWAY



### Step Back in Time in Cairo's Magnolia Manor



Cairo, Illinois is located at the southernmost tip of the state. Its history is significant and spans from the time of the region's discovery in 1673 by Father Marquette and Joliet as they explored Illinois Country for France. Cairo was an important point in the American Civil War because of its strategic location at the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. General Ulysses S. Grant made his headquarters in Cairo during his campaign in the Trans-Mississippi Theater.

Magnolia Manor is located at 2700 Washington Avenue in Cairo. It is a beautiful post-bellum manor located on what was commonly called "Millionaires' Row" and is operated as a Victorian period historic house museum by the Cairo Historical Association. Magnolia Manor was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1969. Perhaps more significant was its listing in the 1880 register of Historic American Buildings with notable structures including the White House.

Magnolia Manor was built by Cairo businessman Charles A. Galigher in 1869. Galigher was a prominent citizen of Cairo and a milling merchant. He accumulated his fortune by selling flour for hardback to the government during the Civil War.

The home is constructed with locally-fired red brick and has 14 rooms. It features double walls intended to keep out the city's famous humid summertime dampness with their ten inch airspace. The beautiful Italianate architectural style features magnificent projecting eaves supported by corbels. The cupola at the very top of the roof was built to take advantage of the beautiful views of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. The exterior balconies are surrounded with intricate white iron railings. The arched windows reveal both circular and triangular pediments, popular at the time of construction.

Inside the home are many original 19th Century furnishings, and the rooms are decorated to reflect the earliest living style within the mansion. The basement floor kitchen reveals the cooking methods and foodways of the middle 1800s. Upon entrance through the bold front doors, visitors immediately see the magnificence of Magnolia Manor. Wood classical columns are prominently placed and a walnut balustrade rails the spiral staircase. Ornate chandeliers light the way to rooms filled with hand crafted furniture and Carrara (Italy) marble fireplaces.

After serving as President of the United States, U.S. Grant and his wife toured the world, then returned to Cairo to visit the Galigher family. In April, 1880, receptions honoring President Grant were held at Magnolia Manor.

The April 17, 1880 edition of the Cairo Daily Bulletin included a story about a reception: "A display of beauty and magnificence never before equaled in Cairo, the Galigher Mansion is an honor to the suburban life of Cairo. It combines all that abundant wealth and exalted taste stimulated by the proper degree of enterprise could suggest or procure. Hundreds of gas jets flashed brilliancy upon its grandeur and fell upon a scene of magnificence rarely to be witnessed anywhere."

*Magnolia Manor is open for tours. It is especially beautiful during Holiday House when each room is decorated for the Christmas Holiday. It is always wise to call first to make certain of days and hours of operation.*  
(618) 734-0201



## Cairo's Historic Safford Library is a Magnificent Structure

Cairo, Illinois is an important stop along the Ohio River Scenic Byway Art Trail. Cairo is home to several important pieces of sculpture that take travelers back to a time when American Impressionist artists were coming into fame.

A source of great beauty and pride in the community, the A.B. Safford Memorial Library was constructed in 1883. This red brick, Queen Anne structure was presented to the City of Cairo by Mrs. Anna Eliza Safford seven years after her husband A.B. Safford passed away, in his loving memory. The first floor of the library is lined with thousands of volumes of books, colorful glass windows, elegant fixtures, rare paintings and other items from the WPA Arts Project.

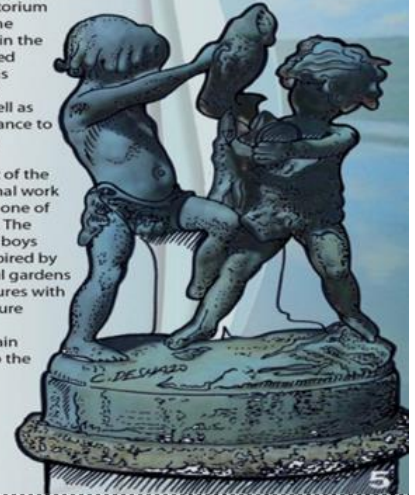
The A. B. Safford Memorial Library is located at 1609 Washington Avenue in Cairo. The building has changed very little in its lifetime. The leaded stained glass windows are the original ones. Two niches on the outside of the building at the entrance hold statues of

Clio, the Greek Muse of history, and Concordia, a Roman goddess of peace.



The first floor consists of a vestibule, hall, the adult reading room, reference room, the children's reading room and the stack room. In the entrance hall visitors can see the wide staircase with ornamental balustrade and wainscoting of walnut, oak and gum, graduated to form an ornate effect typical of the Queen Anne period. A huge round oak table was a gambling table from a steamboat. The chairs with "U.S." carved in the backs are from the Custom House, as are the five large walnut display cabinets and the Italian marble mantel of the fireplace, all circa 1867. A rare Tiffany grandfather's clock stands on the first landing of the stairs. On the second landing is a fourteenth century Italian rosewood credenza. The auditorium upstairs was designed to seat 200. The beautiful chandelier originally hung in the Cairo Opera House, which was opened in 1881. The Safford Library maintains a treasure trove of information, from the Civil War to the 1937 Flood, as well as books, maps, and pictures of importance to Cairo and Alexander County history.

The bronze fountain in front of the library, The Fighting Boys, is an original work of art by Janet Scudder (1869-1940), one of America's foremost female sculptors. The bronze sculpture depicts two young boys fighting over a fish. Scudder was inspired by the increasing popularity of beautiful gardens in America and created many sculptures with fountains. "The Fighting Boys" sculpture was very popular among Scudder's admirers. Created in 1911, the fountain was commissioned and presented to the library by Miss Mary E. Halliday.



The A. B. Safford Memorial Library operates as a public library. Tours can be arranged by appointment. It is important to call first: 618-734-1840.

## Mound City National Cemetery Tells a Powerful Story

Mound City and nearby Cairo were not actually in the combat areas of the Civil War, but their location at the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers made their location an important dispatch point for both soldiers and supplies. The area of the Mound City National Cemetery was the home of a large naval shipyard during the Civil War that provided many of the Eads ironclad gunboats to the Union Army's Mississippi Squadron. The shallow ironclads gave important support to the Union troops on the Tennessee and Cumberland Rivers and at Vicksburg, Mississippi. The Mississippi Squadron was composed of 80 vessels including the famous ironclads USS Cairo, USS Cincinnati, and USS Mound City.

Mound City was also the site of a large Civil War hospital complex. Originally, the city's hotel and foundry were converted to hospitals to house both Union and Confederate wounded pouring into the city in the wake of battles at Shiloh and Vicksburg. In April 1862, the gunboat Mound City captured the steamer Red Rover, which had been used as a Confederate floating barracks. Union officials refitted the vessel as a hospital ship and assigned it to the U.S. Naval hospital at Mound City. The Red Rover sailed with the Mississippi Squadron in its engagements. Remnants of the shipyard and hospital are not accessible to visitors.

Because of the shipyards and the hospital, this was a likely location for the 1864 designation to serve as a national cemetery. The original 1,644 interments were men who had died at the location. Later interments included casualties of battles at Cairo, Belmont, Missouri and Paducah, Kentucky. In 1871, a report by the Inspector of National Cemeteries listed approximately 2,300 known burials and over 2,400 unknown burials.

The Mound City National Cemetery is located on 14 acres in Pulaski County, Illinois just a mile from the community of Mound City. There are

9,000 burials in the cemetery, and over half those ... including the unknown soldiers, served in the Civil War. The Illinois State Soldiers and Sailors Monument is a marble and concrete construction honoring the unknown soldiers and sailors who lost their lives in defense of the country during the Civil War. It was erected in 1874 by the State of Illinois.

By 1874, the number of unknown soldiers and sailors was 2,637. The inscription on the monument reads: "There are buried here 2,637 soldiers and sailors, names unknown, who lost their lives in defense of their country. Their services are here commemorated although their names are lost from the roll of honor." Since the Civil War, this Cemetery has become the final resting place of veterans, their spouses and dependent children from subsequent wars. There are now more than 9,000 interments.

The Mound City National Cemetery is located on Old U.S. Highway 51, about a mile from Mound City, Illinois. It is operated by the Jefferson Barracks Cemetery in St. Louis, so calls should be made to 314-845-8320. The Cemetery is open daily from dawn until dusk and burials can still be arranged. The site was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1997.



# Civil War Naval Hospital

## Treated Soldiers from Both Sides



In 1961, Illinois placed a historical marker on Main Street in Mound City, about 150 yards from the actual location of the Mound City Civil War Naval Hospital. The hospital was established in 1861 in a block of brick store buildings that had been built to accommodate the potential commercial growth of Mound City, which was incorporated in 1854 with 2,500 residents. The brick structure was claimed by the U.S. Government to be used as a general hospital for the military. It was in service during the entire time of the Civil War and was one of the largest Union hospitals in the western states. The structure no longer exists.

The first patients at the Mound City Hospital were the wounded from the Battle of Belmont, Kentucky on November 7, 1861. Heavy fighting at Fort Donelson in February, 1862, and at Shiloh in April, 1862, filled the hospital with even more patients. After the Battle of Shiloh, 2,200 Union and Confederate soldiers were treated at the hospital. Treatment was provided by the Sisters of the Holy Cross from Notre Dame, Indiana. Freed slaves were also treated at the hospital.

Mound City Hospital was able to accommodate 1,500 patients and it was described as one of the best administered of the military general hospitals. Mother Angela (Gillespie) was in charge of a school in South Bend, Indiana when the Civil War began. She transferred from the St. Mary's Convent to Mound City to take charge of the Nursing Sisters at the hospital.

Dr. E. S. Franklin from Dubuque, Iowa transformed the structure into the well-operating hospital which was designed for 1,000 patients, but could and did sometimes hold as many as 1,500 patients. The hospital was known for impeccable cleanliness and expert management and services provided by the Sisters. Dr. H. Warner was a renowned surgeon at the Mound City Hospital and was in charge of the facility. After the Civil War, he took charge of the Illinois State Mental Hospital that was built in Anna between 1869 and 1875. Another outstanding surgeon, Dr. John Brinton wrote that Mound City was "just four years old ... just a very

little town ... just on the river bank." He described the buildings acquired for the hospital as "finished walls" but not finished on the interiors, which made them especially ready to be converted to a hospital. They were 300 feet long and 100 feet deep.

The U.S.S. Red Rover was the first hospital ship of the U.S. Navy. It was the Red Rover that delivered patients to the Mound City Hospital from as far away as Natchez, Mississippi, but the Red Rover didn't start her life as a member of the Union flotilla.

The Red Rover was a side wheel steamer that was built a few miles up the Mississippi River in Cape Girardeau, Missouri in 1859. She was originally purchased by the Confederate Army and was used as a barracks ship. Just five months after her initial commission, she was captured by the Union gunboat, the U.S.S. Mound City and converted into a hospital ship.

The Red Rover had bathrooms and water closets. It had an elevator to move the wounded from the top deck. It had amputation rooms, kitchens and blinds on the windows. Mother Angela volunteered her Sisters for service and at least two Sisters of the Holy Cross remained with the ship throughout the Civil War.

Brinton also described the small garrison of soldiers who protected Mound City. He wrote that they were "defenseless" against the Confederate troops who held the opposite bank of the river and how Mound City was "tempting bait" to the Confederates because of the ironclad ship yard located nearby. He wrote, "Eventually, guns and a battery were sent up for our protection."

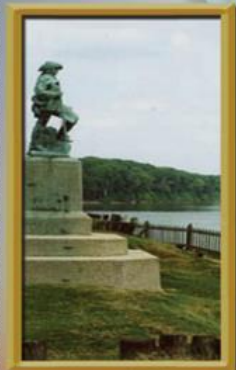


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# Fort Massac State Park

## was Illinois' First



Fort Massac State Park is Illinois' first state park. Through the efforts of the Daughters of the American Revolution, 24 acres were dedicated on November 5, 1908. Today the park encompasses 1,450 acres. The history of Fort Massac begins with Native Americans who took advantage of the site because of its strategic location on the river with a view upstream for several miles. Legend has it that, as early as 1540, the Spanish explorer Hernando De Soto and his soldiers constructed a primitive fortification here to defend themselves from native attack.

Officially, the fort has flown under three flags. Fort Massac was built by the French in 1757, during the French and Indian War and was originally called "Fort de l'Ascension". The name was changed in 1759, in honor of Claud Louis d'Espinhal, Marquis de Massiac, the French Naval Minister. Following the end of the French and Indian War in 1763, the French abandoned the fort and a band of Chickasaw burned it to the ground.

The British then claimed possession but never rebuilt the fort. In 1778, during the American Revolutionary War, Col. George Rogers Clark led his regiment of "Long Knives" into Illinois near the fort at Massac Creek.

In 1794, during the Northwest Indian War, President George Washington ordered the fort rebuilt, and for the next 20 years it protected U.S. military and commercial interests in the Ohio Valley. In the fall of 1803, the Lewis and Clark Expedition stopped at Fort Massac on its way west, recruiting two volunteers. The fort was damaged by the New Madrid Earthquake in 1812. It was again rebuilt in time to play a minor role in the War of 1812, only to be abandoned again in 1814. Local citizens dismantled the fort for its timber, and by 1828 little remained. The site briefly served as a training camp early in the Civil War, marking the last time U.S. troops were stationed at the site. The fort was abandoned after a measles epidemic in 1861-62 claimed the lives of a substantial number of soldiers of the Third Illinois Cavalry and the 131st Illinois Infantry, who were using the fort as an encampment.

The main attraction to the park is the 1802 replica Fort. The footprint of the original fort lies adjacent to the George Rogers Clark Statue and the 1802 fort lies just east of this area. The popular Fort Massac Encampment is scheduled on the third weekend of October each year. Historical re-enactors and skilled craftspeople representing French, British and Americans gather at the Encampment to demonstrate the skills and lifestyles of early residents in this area. However, the fort is not the only attraction that draws visitors to the park.

Many visitors come to simply enjoy the panoramic views of the Ohio River, which is about a mile wide in this area. Some come to watch the boats play up and down the river while others come to watch the waterfowl and other wildlife that also flock to the river. A visitor center just north of the reconstructed fort contains a museum with Indian artifacts, wax figures in period clothing, and other exhibits explaining the history of Fort Massac. Campsites and a boat launch are also available at the park as well as several hiking trails. The George Rogers Clark Discovery Bike & Hiking Trail is approximately 8.8 miles long and goes from Metropolis, IL to Brookport, IL.

For additional information, call the Visitor Center: 618-524-4712.



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## Earliest People at Kincaid Mounds in Massac County, Illinois

The Kincaid Mounds Illinois Historic Site consists of 105 acres at the heart of the Kincaid Mounds Archaeological Site. The State property has been designated a National Historic Landmark. Public access is limited to an observation platform adjacent to Kincaid Mounds Road.

According to Dr. John E. Schwegman, author of "Kincaid: A Prehistoric Cultural and Religious Center in Southern Illinois", "The site of Kincaid Mounds was first occupied as an Early Woodland village over 2,000 years ago and was occupied by the Late Woodland Culture just prior to the arrival of the Mississippian people. Whether the newly arrived Mississippians displaced the Late Woodland Indians who previously lived there is not known. Some scholars believe that many local Woodland peoples joined the Mississippians when they moved into the area. Their corn economy offered the Woodland people an easier lifestyle and a dependable food supply."

Between 1,000 and 700 years ago, the first people to practice large scale agriculture in the Southern Illinois area established Kincaid Mounds as the seat of their Chiefdom. This Mississippian Culture occupied Kincaid from approximately 1050 AD to 1400 AD. They were ruled by a chief who inherited his position and probably claimed power from the sun. Corn or maize farmers in the lowlands along the Ohio River, from Hamlettsburg to Brookport, supported the leaders with grain and constructed the mounds we see today. They also constructed the buildings and the protective wall or palisade that encircled the principal mounds, but which we now know only from the archaeological record.

The mounds are raised platforms on which the Chief and other elite leaders of this society lived or ruled from, and on which thatched-roofed homes, ceremonial buildings, and temples were constructed. The mounds were built in stages over

a 350 year period by stacking basket loads of selected soil and clay material one on top of another. They stand today much as they appeared 700 years ago.

Visitors to the site will see flat-topped 30-foot tall mounds arcing around the leveled plaza area. This plaza was probably the most important public place in the Chiefdom. It was used for social gatherings and for political activities. Artifacts found in the area reveal that the game "Chunky" was played at Kincaid Mounds. The game involved rolling a stone disk and throwing spears at the disk to see who could get their spear the closest to the disk. There is also evidence that purification rituals were performed at this location and celebration of the new corn crop would have been held there.

Kincaid played a major role in the development of modern American archaeology. From 1934 to 1944, the University of Chicago excavated the location and developed many of the methods that became the basis for today's archaeological practices. Southern Illinois University was extremely involved in more recent excavations and the development of the historic site platform and interpretive exhibit.

To visit Kincaid Mounds, travel the Unionville Road east from Route 45 at the north edge of Brookport, Illinois. Travel 6.25 miles (through Unionville) to the New Cut Road. Travel south on the New Cut Road for 3.6 miles to the Kincaid Mounds Road. Drive east on the Kincaid Mounds Road for .6 mile to the observation platform.



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## Golconda was River Crossing Point on Trail of Tears

Golconda is the county seat of Pope County, Illinois. It is located along the Ohio River and has a pedestrian walk and parking lot adjacent to the River, so visitors can enjoy watching the boats and barges go by.

Golconda's downtown business district was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1976. Its architectural style is Late Victorian and it is best known for significance between 1800 and the 1920s. Fifty buildings in Golconda are part of the Historic District. Among the most notable buildings are the Sim Building and the Buel House. The Sim Building is the oldest structure on Main Street and was constructed in 1833 as a residence for Dr. William Sim, the first doctor in Pope County and a member of the Illinois Legislature.

Local legend identifies the Buel House as a significant site on the Cherokee Trail of Tears. The family of tanner Alexander Buel (?-1894) was said to have fed pumpkin to hungry Cherokee Indians being driven west by the Federal Government in 1838. However, records indicate that the house wasn't built until 1840. The home's first owner, Alexander Buel, was a tanner of hides into dressed leather. At the time, there were substantial shipments of hides and leather up and down the Ohio River, with craft persons such as Jesse Grant (father of Ulysses S. Grant) in the river leather trade. The house remained in the hands of the Buel family until 1986, and is preserved as an example of a working-class home's 146-year occupation by one family.

In 1798, Golconda was the first permanent settlement in what is now Pope County. It was also a ferry point across the Ohio River that was sometimes called Lusk's Ferry. The town was first named Sarahsville upon organization of the county and town in 1816, but changed its name to Golconda on January 24, 1817, after the ancient city of Golconda in India. (Golconda, India was the center of the diamond trade and its mine produced the Hope Diamond.)

Some 13,000 Cherokees crossed the Ohio River at Golconda by ferry as part of the famous "Trail of Tears" to Oklahoma, around December 3, 1838. Here the starving Indians were charged a dollar a head

equal to \$20.56 today) to cross the river on "Berry's Ferry" which typically charged twelve cents, equal to \$2.47 today. They were not allowed passage until the ferry had serviced all others wishing to cross and were forced to take shelter under "Mantle Rock," a shelter bluff on the Kentucky side, until "Berry had nothing better to do".

On the public square at the end of Main Street is the Pope County Courthouse, which was constructed in 1872 for \$20,389.01. This building replaced one that was constructed in 1832. The first Pope County Courthouse to occupy this site was a log structure. It was built in 1817 at a cost of \$66.67!

Golconda is the site of the former Lock and Dam 51. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers built a series of dams and boat locks to aid navigation on the Ohio River. Homes were constructed for the lockkeepers. These homes, built right at the River's edge, were occupied from 1928 to 1980. In 1998, The City of Golconda obtained ownership of the houses, restored them, and they are now available to rent as vacation lodging (618-683-6702).

Among the many historic buildings built in the latter half of the 19th century is the First Presbyterian Church (built in 1869). It is the oldest continuous Presbyterian congregation in Illinois. The church was organized in 1819.



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# Garden of the Gods is a National Treasure



Perhaps the most beautiful natural attraction in Southern Illinois, and certainly among the most photographed, Camel Rock is an incredible rock formation located in the heart of the Shawnee National Forest. The Shawnee National Forest documents this site as follows: "More than 320 million years ago, the wind and rain patiently started to chisel away at large deposits of sedimentary rock located in what is now, the Shawnee National Forest."

Through the ages, the elements have sculpted some of the most stunning and extraordinary rock formations known to man. This garden of sandstone sculptures and vast untouched wilderness was fittingly named Garden of the Gods. There are also magnificent bluffs which drop more than 100 feet down, but provide breathtaking views of the forests below and beyond. Some of the more popular rock formations surrounding the cliffs acquired titles such as Camel Rock, Mushroom Rock and, one of the first formations named, Anvil Rock. During the Civil War, many of the cliffs and canyons were used as havens by soldiers of both the Union and Confederate Armies. The Knights of the Golden Circle might have met in the valley below Camel Rock."

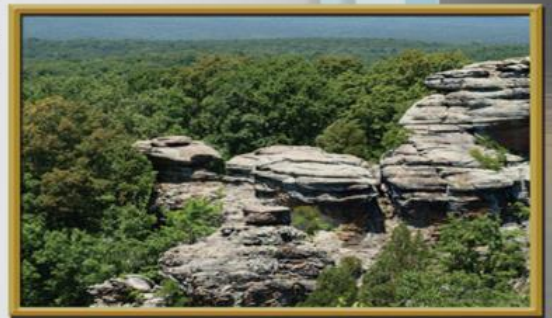
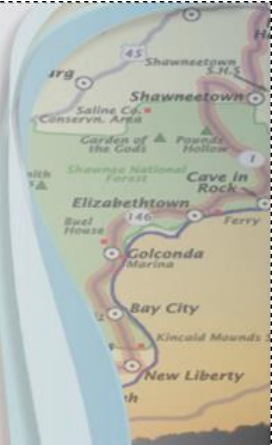
In 2010, the United States Mint began issuing 56 quarter-dollar coins featuring designs depicting national parks and other national sites as part of the United States Mint America the Beautiful Quarters® Program. Through a multi-step process, a total of six U.S. Forest Service sites were selected to be featured as part of the series. For the state of Illinois, the Shawnee's Garden of the Gods was selected as the image to be highlighted. The quarter is scheduled to be launched in early 2016.

The Shawnee National Forest has launched a new mobile-based interpretive tour designed to better connect visitors with national forest lands. Garden of the Gods is one of the 30 sites in the system. Each location included in the tour will have signage with the phone number and a QR code. To access the tour using your mobile phone, dial 618-219-7032, follow the prompts and enter the specific stop number to hear the recorded interpretive message for that particular site.

## Directions to Garden of the Gods:

From Exit 54 at Interstate 57 and Illinois 13, drive 25 miles east on Illinois 13 to US 45 in Harrisburg. Turn right onto US 45 and drive south 1 mile to Illinois 34. Turn left onto Illinois 34 and drive 16 miles to Karbers Ridge Road. Turn left onto Karbers Ridge Road and drive 3 miles east to Illinois 10, turn right. Continue about 1 mile to Garden of the Gods Road, turn left. Look for Garden of the Gods Recreation area on your left.

From the south take Illinois 1 North to Cadiz Road. Turn left and continue west 6 miles to Karbers Ridge Road. Turn left and continue west for 4 miles to Illinois 10 (Garden of the Gods Road). Turn left and travel about 1 mile. Turn left into Garden of the Gods Recreation area.



# Fluorite is More Than Beautiful to Look at

Fluorite, the official Illinois State Mineral, was discovered in 1839 by James Anderson while digging a well near Fairview Landing, about a mile from Rosiclare, Illinois. Fluorite was a waste product until the steel industry began using the mineral in their open hearth process in 1888. The Rosiclare Lead and Fluorspar Mining Company was the first major producer of fluorite. The largest and deepest fluorite mines in the world are located in Hardin County. For many years these mines produced about three-fourths of the fluorite mined in the United States.

Although it has important industrial uses, many consider fluorite simply beautiful to look at. The Illinois Legislature agreed on both counts, naming fluorite the state mineral in 1965. Huge mineral specimens, many of them an eerie bright blue, are on display at the American Fluorite Museum located on Main Street in Rosiclare. Some of the more unusual examples have minerals like barite embedded in the fluorite specimens. Displays also include photographs, mining artifacts, and a scale model of a fluorite mine superstructure. Fluorite's industrial uses include steel production, glass etching (hydrofluoric acid), and the manufacture of lens for telescopes and cameras.

Rosiclare was once known as the "Fluorspar Capital of the World", but after it became less expensive

to import fluorspar from other parts of the world, mining diminished in the United States. Rosiclare still celebrates the industry with an annual Fluorspar Festival, held the first weekend in October. The family oriented event includes activities for children, barbecue meals, musical entertainment and a parade.

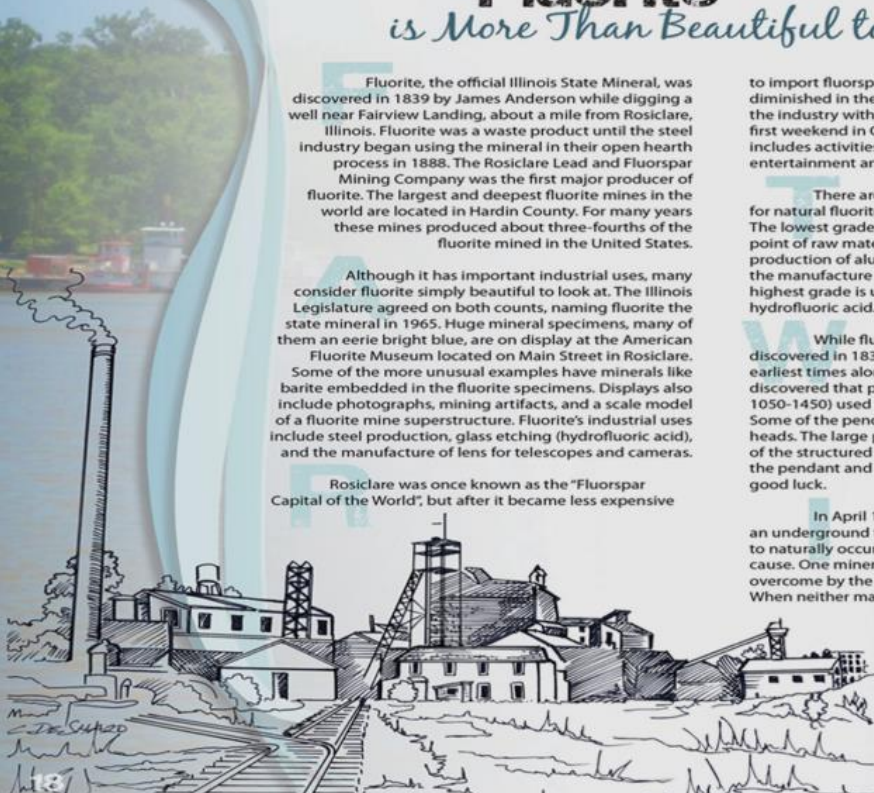
There are three principal types of industrial use for natural fluorite, depending upon its grade of purity. The lowest grade is used as a flux to lower the melting point of raw materials in steel production and in the production of aluminum. The ceramic grade is used in the manufacture of opalescent glass and enamels. The highest grade is used to make hydrogen fluoride and hydrofluoric acid.

While fluorite might have been officially discovered in 1839, it was actually discovered in the earliest times along the Ohio River. Archaeologists have discovered that peoples of the Mississippian Period (A.D. 1050-1450) used fluorite to make beads and pendants. Some of the pendants were effigies of owls and human heads. The large production of beads may have been a part of the structured economy. It is possible that the shape of the pendant and the fluorite itself was thought to bring good luck.

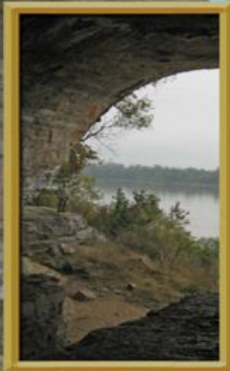
In April 1971, seven miners died in succession in an underground fluorspar mine near Rosiclare. Exposure to naturally occurring hydrogen sulfide gas was the cause. One miner went into an area of the mine and was overcome by the gas. His brother followed to find him. When neither man returned, other miners continued to follow in search of the men until seven men were overcome by the chemical vapors. Five men died onsite and two others died after being transferred to the hospital. The accident certainly impacted families and residents of the region, but also directly influenced the 1977 Federal Mine Safety & Health Act.



The museum is open Thursday through Sunday from March to December. A modest admission is charged. Telephone: 618-285-3513



# Cave in Rock *is Filled with History & Intrigue*



Hardin County, Illinois was formed in 1839, but the natural centerpiece of the whole county was first seen by European eyes a hundred years before. In 1739, the French explorer M. De Lery found and mapped the cave and gave it the name it still bears today. The cave had, of course, been in existence for thousands of years. It was worn into the bluffs by Ohio River flooding, probably extensively during the melting following the Wisconsin Ice Age. The effects of the 1811-1812 New Madrid Earthquake may have further contributed to the formation of the cave.

Many caves are the topics of stories told about the happenings in and around the premise. Possibly no cave, though, has more stories and legends told about it than this cave! Cave In Rock outlaws, pirates and counterfeiters reined for fifty years beginning in 1790. Legend holds that notorious counterfeiters Philip Alston and John Duff used the cave as a meeting place in the 1790s. Through a relationship with Duff, Samuel Mason moved his base of operations to Cave In Rock in 1797. Mason had been a Revolutionary War militia captain and later served as an associate judge in Pennsylvania, before moving his family to Kentucky. After arriving in Kentucky, Samuel Mason became the leader of a gang of river pirates and highwaymen outlaws who wreaked havoc from Cave In Rock all the way to New Orleans. As depicted in the popular movie, "How the West Was Won", this tavern in the cave created an easy lure for travelers to stop as they passed by, but the combination with gambling den, brothel and refuge for criminals made it the perfect trap.

There is some belief that the first recorded serial killers in American history might have spent time at Cave In Rock. Micajah and Wiley Harpe, known as "Big" and "Little" Harpe, were active during the last decade of the 18th Century. The Harpe brothers (who may actually have just been cousins) spread killing and despair

wherever they went. While they operated primarily in Kentucky and Tennessee, there are some accounts of their horrible activities on the Illinois side of the Ohio River.

In the early 1800s, the Sturdivant Gang and the Ford's Ferry Gang made appearances in the region. The Sturdivant Gang originated in Colonial Connecticut and by 1810, third generation counterfeiter Roswell S. Sturdivant lead his gang, which was primarily based in St. Clair County Illinois, but also occupied a fortress in nearby Pope County. The Ford's Ferry Gang had a more local foundation. James Ford (1770-1833) was a business and community leader in Kentucky and Southern Illinois, in the areas on both sides of the Ohio River. The other side of his dual personality was that of a gang leader, and his bandits high-jacked flatboats for a couple decades!

Two of the most colorful characters in our story are perhaps Isaiah Potts and his wife Polly who owned a tavern near the Ford's Ferry. Ferry goers would depart the boat then take the short trek to the tavern as they ventured inland. It was a common occurrence for the travelers to be attacked, robbed and killed along the route to the tavern. Local legend tells that eventually and unknowingly they killed their own son.

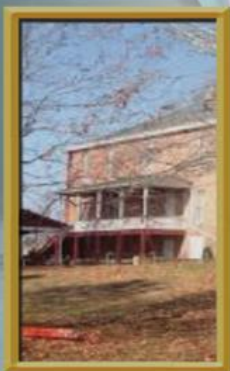


Illinois bought the original acreage for the Cave In Rock State Park in 1929. Now, the 200-acre park stretches from the Ohio River's shoreline to the top of a 60 foot tall bluff. It is maintained by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. For information about Cave In Rock State Park, the lodging or restaurant, call 618-289-4325 or 618-289-4545.

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# Saline County Pioneer *Village and Museum*



The museum is a replica of an 1800s pioneer village and features log cabins, a one-room school, a log barn, a church, jail, general store, blockhouse and a museum. The museum is located on the original site of the Saline County Poor Farm. The Poor House (Pauper Farm) was built in 1877 with an addition in 1904. In 1819, the Illinois General Assembly enacted a bill that required county commissioners to appoint overseers of the poor for each township, who would provide aid to the welfare families. In 1839, the Almshouse method of providing care was established and a farm/building would be constructed and the paupers would work the farm.

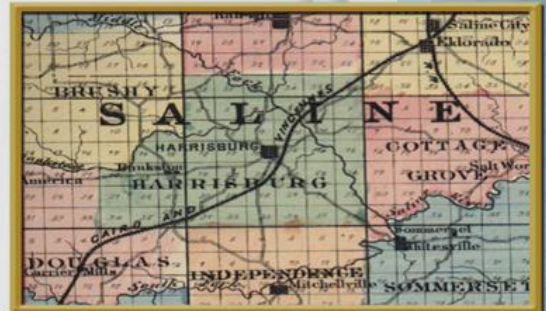
The Pauper Farm originally contained 175 acres and used log buildings for years, until the brick building was constructed. The land was purchased in 1863 and construction on the farm began in 1877 starting with a 2-story Victorian style home, which is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The building later became an orphanage, a jail, an insane asylum and eventually a place for refugees. The farm stopped operating in the 1950s and now serves as the Saline County Museum. The museum contains Robert Ingersol's (famed attorney who served as Attorney General of Illinois) desk, a letter from William Jennings Bryan and an 1853 newspaper that has an article about the Trail of Tears.

The Pauper Cemetery is adjacent to the site and it contains markers with records dating to 1849. The poor, as well as murder victims and unknown vagrants were buried there. There are 263 burials including 60 children in the cemetery. Highly unusual at the time, Negro and Caucasian burials are side by side. The records of the burials list the cause of death and those events range from having been "run over by train at Wasson" to "shot by Charlie Birger at Ledford". One burial is the "left leg" of a coal miner hurt in a mining accident.

The Saline Creek Pioneer Village represents a settlement depicting the era of 1800 to 1840. Within the settlement is a blockhouse, a Quaker church, a post office, a saddlebag cabin and a very unique barn with a threshing floor, a school and a jail.

A blockhouse has been erected in the Pioneer Village because it was such an important structure in early settlements. In the 1600s, the French began to migrate into Illinois and many made their homes along the Ohio River Scenic Byway region. In many instances, the settlers displaced the Native Americans and battles occurred. The blockhouse was a part of a fortress. A blockhouse was typically two stories tall and was constructed from squared off or rounded logs. The doors and windows were reinforced for protection.

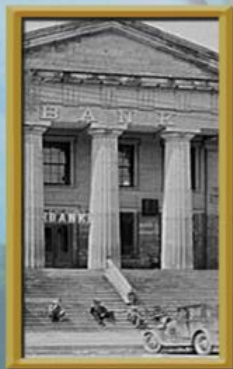
Numerous blockhouses were in Saline County. They were built along migration routes including the Kaskaskia and Goshen Trails. The Pioneer Village is located at 1600 Feazel Street in Harrisburg. It is always important to call for information regarding hours of operation or special events. 618-253 - 7342



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## Old Shawneetown Bank



The Bank of Illinois opened the doors in the beautiful Greek Revival five-columned building in 1841. At the time, banks had the right to print and issue their own paper money as long as the money was backed by actual silver and gold specie. The Bank of Illinois was built with a large vault to contain the precious silver and gold. If a paper note was presented, the bank was supposed to offer actual gold or silver in exchange. In just one year, the bank closed.

The bank reopened in 1854 as the State Bank of Illinois. During the Civil War, small banks in the United States were prevented from issuing their own bank notes, but after the war, most states created statutes that favored banks as lenders and enforced the collection of delinquent debts. Bankers became respected, notable community leaders. The Great Depression in the 1930s nearly destroyed the State Bank of Illinois and the Ohio River flood in 1937 finished the job. The flood damaged most of Shawneetown and many of the businesses and residents moved to a new location. The bank closed in 1942.

Old Shawneetown was once a very busy port on the Ohio River, and it shares the distinction with Washington D.C. as being one of only two cities chartered by the United States Government. It was considered the gateway to the Illinois Territory and the Western Frontier. Immigrants came down the Ohio River from the east into Illinois through Shawneetown. Money moved through Shawneetown. Shawneetown was the location of a Federal Land Grant Office after the American Revolution. Shawneetown was the port through which salt from the Saline Springs was shipped.

In 1810, eight years before Illinois became a state, a United States post office was established in Shawneetown. For a number of years Shawneetown served as a mail distribution center for a large area of Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Mississippi. The first line of mail coaches had been established in the United States on September 7, 1785. As early

as 1806 an overland mail route was established from Vincennes to Shawneetown, the oldest mail route in the Illinois Territory. It is understandable that Old Shawneetown needed such a large bank facility.

Shawneetown was the location of another bank, prior to the construction of the five-column bank. The first brick house built in Old Shawneetown, the John Marshall house is an Illinois landmark because it housed Illinois' very first bank. The house was built in 1808 and the bank was established in 1816. Local legend reveals that a Chicago businessman rode horseback for 300 miles to negotiate a loan from the bank in the brick house. No description of Chicago made the banker grant the loan. The local bank refused it on the grounds that the little village of Chicago was so far from a waterway and Shawneetown ... that it could never amount to anything! The bank issued its own certificates and printed 3 and 7 dollar bills. In 1842, the bank closed after the financial panic of 1837, when it could not meet the demands of creditors. Today, the John Marshall House is a museum and is open on weekends from Mother's Day through the end of October.

*The bank is considered one of the finest examples of Greek Revival Architecture in Illinois. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It is owned by the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, but is not open to the general public. The bank is located at Washington and Main Streets in Old Shawneetown.*



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## Salt and the Crenshaws



The Crenshaw Mansion, also known as the Old Slave House, sits atop Hickory Hill and overlooks the Saline River. The house was built in 1838 by John Hart Crenshaw, who leased the nearby salt springs from the State of Illinois and worked them with Black slave labor. It is believed that the first and second floor of the house were living quarters for the Crenshaw family, but the third floor (top floor) of the house has several small cells (3 x 6 feet) where slaves were kept. There is a central driveway through the center of the house, which some researchers believe is evidence that Crenshaw participated in Reverse Underground Railroad activities.

Salt from Gallatin County's Salines lured animals (and possibly people) in prehistoric times. Half Moon Lick, which is currently located on private property, is a depression about 12 feet deep and a quarter mile wide. The Great Salt Springs is located a quarter mile west of the Saline River (Route 1). Washed down from the cliff overlooking the spring, remnants of pottery have been determined by archaeologists to have come from the Mississippian Culture in pre-history. The people of prehistoric cultures used evaporation bowls made from clay tempered with mussel shells. Rocks were heated and placed in the pottery to hasten the evaporation of the water. Native Americans from 100 BC through the 1600s AD are believed to have made salt from these springs (Plankashaw and Shawnee). Salt production continued at these locations through generations and eventually the Native Americans signed over the salt works to the State of Illinois. Salt production was Illinois' first industry.

John Hart Crenshaw (1797-1871) was a landowner, salt maker and possibly a slave trader ... who leased the salt works from the State of Illinois and used Black slaves to produce the salt. Illinois was not a slave state, but the first Illinois Constitution in 1818 allowed for the use of slaves in the production of salt in the region known as

the Gallatin Salines. It is important to note that 30% of Illinois' revenue came from the salt industry. Crenshaw was indicted in the 1820s for kidnapping free Blacks and returning them to slavery. He was indicted again in 1842, but was acquitted. Local lore is filled with undocumented accounts of Crenshaw's evil-doing regarding the capture and resale of Blacks to slavery. It is possible that many of the allegations were overlooked because Crenshaw used the alias John Granger. This was first revealed when a document written by Crenshaw's attorney, Henry Eddy, started with the name John Granger, which was later crossed out and made to say Crenshaw. Crenshaw's relatives deny the negative stories and say that he was a Christian and that the stories grew out of jealousy of his power and wealth. Good or bad, John Crenshaw became wealthy from his slave-labored production of salt and built the Crenshaw Mansion in 1838.

The Crenshaw Mansion has also been known as Hickory Hill and today as The Old Slave House. In 2004, it was named by the National Park Service as a "station" on the Reverse Underground Railroad, thus acknowledging Crenshaw's practice of kidnapping free Blacks and selling them back to locations in slave states.

*In 1996, the State of Illinois purchased the Crenshaw Mansion and closed it to the general public. The historic mansion remains closed.*



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