Some Historic Sites in Iowa

William J. Petersen

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Recommended Citation
Available at: https://ir.uiowa.edu/palimpsest/vol48/iss5/2

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Some Historic Sites in Iowa

The written history of Iowa begins on June 17, 1673, when Joliet and Marquette paddled out of the Wisconsin River and into the broad expanse of the Mississippi just below McGregor, Iowa. Everything before that date is pre-historic Iowa and is best represented by the Effigy Mounds National Monument above present-day Marquette.

A number of other sites comparable to the Effigy Mounds area are being developed. In addition, the State Historical Society of Iowa hopes to make a beginning on its Toolesboro Mounds area in the months ahead.

As a further guide for members and interested Iowans, the Society plans to publish issues of The Palimpsest on such topics as museums—state, city, and privately owned—which have outstanding merit and will be of more than local interest. The latter type will doubtless be listed in an appendix. Also contemplated is an issue on fairs, festivals, rodeos and similar attractions. These must be
well-established and possess the element of longevity, such as the Clay County Fair, the National Dairy Congress, the Pella Tulip Festival, the Tama Powwow, and the rodeos at Sidney and Fort Madison. Information, programs, and pictures will be needed in order to develop these stories. Ultimately complete issues of *The Palimpsest* should appear on the more important ones, similar to those published on the Iowa State Fair, the Clay County Fair, the Tama Powwow, and the Midwest Old Threshers Reunion.

Iowa has a rich and colorful history and every effort should be made to present it in vivid and dramatic form. Historical accuracy should always be the determining factor in every community presentation. It is only when the elements of truth and accuracy are combined with drama that a true picture can be drawn.

One can earnestly hope that the following pages will serve as a catalyst in engendering a deeper love and affection for the Hawkeye State.

*William J. Petersen*
Fort Atkinson was established to protect the Winnebago Indians from the Sioux on the North and from the Sauk and Fox on the South. The Winnebagoes were removed from the Neutral Ground to Minnesota in 1848.
Explanatory Signs Help the Visitor.

Former Headquarters, Effigy Mounds National Monument.
Guides Explain the Mounds Along Picturesque Trails.

The Mississippi Can Be Seen From Park Trail.
NORWEGIAN-AMERICAN HISTORICAL MUSEUM
Decorah

THE HARLAN HOME
Mount Pleasant
Society Members Inspect Toolesboro Mounds.

Montauk — The Larrabee Home at Clermont.
ANTONIN DVORAK IN IOWA

Spillville

Monument Commemorating Visit of the Renowned Composer in 1893.

The Home in which Dvorak lived. Here he completed the "New World" symphony, composed his "American Quartette" and a quintette for strings, and found inspiration for "Humoresque." The Bily Clocks are now housed in this home.
SYMPHONIES IN WOOD: SOME BILY BROTHERS CLOCKS

Spillville

Violin Clock

The Statuary Clock

First Thanksgiving Plaque

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THERE ARE SEVERAL PIONEER LOG CABINS AT DECORAH

Exterior of Cabin on the Luther College Campus.

Interior View of One of the Pioneer Cabins.

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ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CHAPEL

Near Festina

(At right) Interior View of 4-pew St. Anthony Chapel.

ST. PETER'S GERMAN UNITED EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Near Garnavillo

Built in 1858 near ghost village of Ceres.
There's a church in the valley by the wildwood,
No lovelier place in the dale.
No spot is so dear to my childhood.
As the little brown church in the vale.

Interior of the Little Brown Church.
A French Canadian who came to Prairie du Chien in 1785, Dubuque received permission of the Fox Indians to work the lead mines around present-day Dubuque in 1788. A Spanish Land Grant was made to him in 1796. He died in 1810.

Lincoln appointee to U.S. Supreme Court; Served 1862-1890.
THE TRAPPIST ABBEY OF NEW MELLERAY
Near Dubuque

Exterior of the Abbey.

Interior of Chapel at New Melleray.

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Main Street in St. Donatus — An Early Luxemburg Settlement.

The Old Court House, Keokuk — Erected as a Medical School in 1857.
FOURTH STREET ELEVATOR

Dubuque

THE OLDEST LOG CABIN IN IOWA — 1833
Adjoining the Ham Home and Museum, Dubuque.
The Great Seal of Iowa

The Iowa State Banner
Headquarters and Museum, Effigy Mounds National Monument, Marquette

The Graves of Chief Wapello and Joseph M. Street, Agency
Gardner Log Cabin, Spirit Lake Monument, and Museum, Arnolds Park

Burial Site of Herbert and Lou Henry Hoover, West Branch
An Amish Man Drives His Team into Kalona

Wyatt Earp Home and Holland Museum, Pella
Mid-Victorian Susie Sower Home, Marshalltown

Historic Manning Hotel, Keosauqua
Mount Pisgah, Mormon Cemetery, near Lorimor

The Old Shot Tower, Dubuque
Old Capitol, Iowa City—Home of the University of Iowa

Centennial Building, Iowa City—Home of the State Historical Society of Iowa
Wild Rose—State Flower of Iowa

Eastern Goldfinch—State Bird of Iowa
MARKER FOR FORT MADISON: THE FIRST AMERICAN FORT IN IOWA (1808-1813)

*Fort Madison*
IOWA SOLDIERS HOME
Marshalltown

Statue of Soldier

Cemetery
OUR FIRST IOWANS ARE NOT FORGOTTEN

Chief Keokuk
Keokuk

Chief Mahaska
Oskaloosa

Black Hawk Springs
Burlington

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HOME OF FIRST GOVERNOR OF TERRITORY OF IOWA

Iowa City

Plum Grove — Home of Governor Robert Lucas.

From State Historical Society Collection
A BIT OF HOLLAND IN IOWA

Pella Historical Museum — Now the Holland Theater
THE WILLIAM BOYD ALLISON MONUMENT
Des Moines

IOWA STATE CAPITOL
Des Moines
GRAVE OF ANSEL BRIGGS — FIRST STATE GOVERNOR

Monument Over Grave of Ansel Briggs

Bronze Tablet Marking Tree Planted by Ansel Briggs

Butterworth Tavern — Ansel Briggs Lived Here

Andrew

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WAR EAGLE'S GRAVE OVERLOOKING THE BIG SIOUX

Sioux City

MONUMENT TO SERGEANT CHARLES FLOYD

Sioux City
Lewis and Clark passed along the western border of Iowa from July 18 to August 20, 1804. They held a council with the Missouri and Oto Indians on the banks of the Missouri above present-day Omaha. The City of Council Bluffs was named to commemorate this historic event.
BIRTHPLACE OF IOWA’S ONLY PRESIDENT
West Branch

From State Historical Society Collection
Herbert Hoover Birthplace

Photo Courtesy William Wagner
Replica of Blacksmith Shop of Jesse Hoover
West Branch

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GENERAL REFERENCES

SOME HISTORIC SITES IN IOWA
Compiled by Bessie R. Petersen


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