

ATTACHMENT G: CULTURAL RESOURCES
(Updated excerpt from Jo Daviess Comprehensive Plan, Baseline Data)

Human Prehistory of Jo Daviess County

The human prehistory of Jo Daviess County spans the time period from 10,000 B.C. to the 1600s when the first Europeans came into the area. Continental ice sheets had retreated from the perimeter of the Driftless Area by 12,000 years ago, ushering in the Paleo-Indian Period. The Paleo-Indians were nomadic hunters and gatherers, who hunted large game animals, including the mammoth and mastodon.

About 9,000 years ago began the Archaic Period, which lasted about 7,000 years. Indians of this period developed better weapons--some of the spear points found locally date from this period. These peoples often spent the colder months in upland rock shelters, moving down to the Mississippi River during the summer to fish and harvest various plants and animals.

The Woodland Period dates from 2,000 years ago to roughly 1200 A.D. During this time, complex cultures appeared with elaborate burial practices. The mounds that dot the bluffs of the Mississippi River and its tributaries are from this period. The Indian mounds of Gramercy Park in East Dubuque are burial mounds from the Hopewell phase, which occurred roughly from 100-200 A.D. Other burial mounds, and later effigy mounds, were constructed during the late Woodland period, or 600 to 1200 A.D. Effigy mounds were made in the shape of mammals, birds or snakes. Some were for burial, but others may have been territorial markers or totem symbols. Jo Daviess County has hundreds of Indian mounds, but a systematic survey has never been undertaken.

Archeologists next define the Mississippian Period, which overlaps the late Woodland Period, running from about 1000 A.D. to 1500 A.D. The Mississippian Indians were farmers and lived in large villages. Their influence spread into the upper midwestern tribes, and is characterized by distinctive pottery and reliance upon agriculture and the growing of corn, beans and squash. For reasons not fully understood, the period ended about 1500 A.D., when modern-day tribes began moving into the region.

Fox and Sauk History

Various tribes moved through Jo Daviess County during the 1500s and 1600s. Pressure from Europeans farther east, disease, and inter-tribal warfare all played a part in the complex migrations that took place during this unsettled time. The Fox (or Mesquakie) and Sauk (or Sac) were originally from Michigan and northwestern Ohio, respectively. They were forced, however, for the reasons mentioned, to relocate in northeastern Wisconsin. The two tribes were allies and eventually united. They built large towns with wide streets and large bark-covered lodges. Agriculture was heavily practiced during the growing season, while hunting occupied them during the fall and winter months. By the 1760s, the Fox and Sauk had begun to establish villages along the Mississippi River from Rock Island to Prairie du Chien. The total population of the Sauk was about 4,000-5,000, while the Fox may have had 2,000-3,000 members. Saukenuk, the single largest Sauk village, located at Rock Island, had a population of over 2,000 with 100 lodges.

A questionable treaty between some of the tribes' leaders and Governor William Henry Harrison was signed in 1804. With this treaty, the Sauk and Fox gave up their lands east of the Mississippi, but retained the right to live there until the U.S. Government sold the land.

The federal government was very aware of the lead mines in the region, particularly along the Fever (now Galena) River. They began issuing leases for mineral lands in 1822, thus initiating a rush to the lead fields. Settlers quickly began squatting on Indian lands and tensions increased.

Black Hawk War

As wars go, the Black Hawk War was not a large one, but it did mark the end of Indian resistance to white encroachment east of the Mississippi River. It also opened wide the doors to settlement of the upper midwest.

Black Hawk was a Sauk leader who thoroughly disliked the Americans. He had fought against them with the British in the War of 1812. Things heated up in 1828 when the government offered the lands in and around Saukenuk for sale. Most of the Fox and Sauk left for Iowa under the leadership of Keokuk. Black Hawk refused to follow, and continued for several years to cross back over to the Illinois side to hunt and farm. Things came to a head after the winter of 1831-32 when the tribes found themselves short of food. Black Hawk collected about 500 warriors and about 1,000 women and children and moved back into Illinois. He hoped to plant corn, but must also have known that his action would provoke another incident with the American government.

Illinois Governor Reynolds called for 2,000 volunteer militia, who joined 1,000 federal troops to pursue Black Hawk. An attempt by Black Hawk to surrender was botched by ill-trained and drunken militia. Enraged and emboldened, Black Hawk sent out raiding parties while retreating up the Rock River. Thus began a series of skirmishes and a wave of panic which spread throughout the region. Many settlements built stockades, the largest being in Galena. At the site of Elizabeth, then a small lead mining settlement, a hastily constructed fort was attacked by Black Hawk and a raiding party of 150 warriors. After a brief siege that cost the life of one defender, the Indians then raided and destroyed the cabins and livestock around the fort and left.

Two months later, American troops caught up with Black Hawk's band at the Battle of Bad Ax in Wisconsin. The ensuing battle ended Black Hawk's dreams and all claims by the Fox and Sauk to lands east of the Mississippi River. Thus began a torrent of Euro-American immigrants into the region, with most coming to Galena and the lead mines.

Galena History

Prior to the Civil War, the history of Jo Daviess County is largely the history of Galena. "Galena" is the Latin name for lead sulfide and was given to the small lead mining settlement in 1826 by its mining population.

Lead had been sporadically mined along the Fever (now Galena) River for thousands of years prior to the arrival of Europeans. The native Americans used it for ceremonial powder, paint and sometimes magical charms. The French noted their shallow mines as early as 1690 and quickly moved to gain control of the lead trade. Julien Dubuque, through a treaty with the Fox and Sauk Indians in 1788, either mined or encouraged the mining of lead on both sides of the river. Dubuque, Iowa is named after him.

The Americans began moving into the Galena area in large numbers following the first government issued leases in 1822. Aware of the value of lead, the federal government would only lease mineral lands, thus retarding permanent improvements in the lead region. The law was changed to permit private ownership in 1836-7 for Galena and several other towns, but not until 1846-7 for the rest of Jo Daviess County.

Because of the value of lead, which was used for musket balls, paint, roofing and flashing, water pipes, pewter and tin, a rush for the lead region began. It peaked in 1845, when the region (with Galena as the hub) produced 55,000,000 pounds, or 85% of the nation's lead.

During this time, Galena gained state and national prominence. The lead rush here was the first major mineral rush in U.S. history and preceded the California Gold Rush by 20 years. Because of the lead trade, Galena entrepreneurs were able to develop a steam boat transportation monopoly on the upper Mississippi River that lasted until the Civil War. Although three miles from the Mississippi, Galena was the largest port north of St. Louis for 30 years. The town's business interests had invested heavily in every sector of the economy, from smelting to wholesaling and retailing stores that serviced the present states of Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota and beyond.

It was during this time that fortunes were amassed and mansions of all types and sizes were built. Galena became a "must see" place for the early travelers of the period. Its population peaked at 14,000 in 1857, but declined steadily thereafter. Immigration also peaked then. The first miners/settlers were from southern Illinois, Missouri, Kentucky and other Ohio River states. Many of them had strong ties to southern traditions and beliefs. These connections gave Galena, an otherwise "northern" city, a somewhat "southern" quality, particularly as it related to politics. These people tended to be Protestants, Democrats and States' Rights advocates. Many had no particular problem with slavery, provided it was kept in the southern states.

With time, however, Galena became home to many other groups as well. A relatively large number of free Blacks (perhaps 250 by the time of the Civil War) lived in town. Their numbers decreased rapidly after the War, as they left to find jobs. Many Germans (often highly skilled) came in the 1840s and 50s. They came because of political and economic conditions in Europe. Large numbers of Irish came, too, particularly with the potato famines of the 1840s. Cornish and English miners came hoping to work the mines. And large numbers of New Englanders and New Yorkers came, too, many looking for farms, not mines.

Into this mix came Ulysses S. Grant in April of 1860, with his wife and four children. Grant's father was in the tannery business in southern Ohio. He was involved in a leather goods store in Galena as early as 1841. Business was so good that he sent sons Simpson and Orvil to manage the store in Galena. Meanwhile, Ulysses had resigned from the Army and gone to St. Louis to be with his wife and her family. After failing at several business ventures, Grant's father finally sent him to Galena to help his brothers. One year later the Civil War erupted. U.S. Grant, a West Point graduate, left Galena a little known private citizen, but returned in 1865 as the victorious general of the Union Armies. Eight other Galenians also achieved the rank of General for services rendered during the War, more than any other town of Galena's size.

Upon his return, Grant was given a new home on the east side of town. Although he was able to spend little time there, he maintained Galena as his official residence for 20 years. His home, always open to the public, was given to the city in 1904 and then to the State of Illinois in 1931. The State also owns the city's Old Market House and the Congressman Elihu B. Washburne Home. Washburne was one of the founders of the Republican party in Jo Daviess County in 1856 and also one of the most powerful lawmakers in Washington at the outbreak of the Civil War. He was a central figure in furthering the military and political career of U.S. Grant.

Galena declined rapidly with the Civil War. Low lead prices and reduced production were the rule after 1847 when all mineral lands were put up for sale. Agriculture had become dominant in Jo Daviess County. The Galena River had silted in so badly (from soil loosened by picks and plows), that steam boats were avoiding it. The coming of the Illinois Central Railroad in 1854 further weakened Galena's trade monopolies. The Illinois Central was controlled by Chicago investors; over the next few years they successfully challenged Galena's trade. The Panic of 1857--a nationwide depression--hurt Galena further at a critical time. This, combined with the Civil War which disrupted Galena's river trade with St. Louis and beyond, hurt the town even more. Finally, increasingly bitter politics between Democrats and the new Republicans weakened City government. They found themselves unable to effectively address the City's problems. Following the War, Galena became a small, increasingly agricultural trade center.

Today, Galena is nationally recognized for its history and architecture. Over 85% of the town was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1969. Its location within the Driftless Area--with its unglaciated hills, valleys, ridges and scenic vistas--adds to its attractiveness. Over one million people visit the community annually. Other communities and sites have tied into this phenomenon, such that the entire county now represents a strong tourist destination.

Jo Daviess County Beyond Galena

While lead mining and Galena dominate the story of early Jo Daviess County, they are by no means the only story. The County was established in 1827 and included all or parts of ten present-day counties. It was named after Col. Joseph Hamilton Daveiss ("Daviess" was an incorrect spelling that was included in the original legislation). Daveiss was a prominent Kentucky lawyer who married the sister of U.S. Chief Justice John Marshall. In 1811 he was appointed a Colonel in the Kentucky militia and achieved considerable fame by leading a gallant charge against the Indians at the Battle of Tippecanoe. Unfortunately, he died in the process, but his name lived on, given to counties in Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois and Missouri-- wherever Kentuckians migrated. Because early Jo Daviess County was settled by so many with Kentucky roots, our county was so named.

Following the initial migration from the southern part of the State, Jo Daviess County attracted other groups as well. Miners from Cornwall and the Yorkshires of northeast England came. Many Irish came, most as unskilled laborers who worked in the mines, on the farms and elsewhere. Most of the Irish were Catholic, but some were Protestants from what is now Northern Ireland. The largest numbers came during the 1840s because of the potato famines.

Huge numbers of Germans also came during the 1840s and 1850s, often because of political and economic unrest in Europe. Galena took in large numbers, but so, too, did farming areas like Menominee, Guilford and Elizabeth townships. The Germans came as furniture makers, cobblers, carpenters and farmers.

Perhaps the largest influx of new residents prior to the Civil War were those from New England and New York. With the opening of the Erie Canal and Great Lakes steam boat travel, they flooded northern Illinois and Southern Wisconsin. As a result, the County became more like the rest of northern Illinois in terms of its outlook and institutions. Southern traditions were still strong, however, and it took three tries before the County gave up its southern county commissioner form of government and adopted the New England Township and County Board form of government in 1853.

The new Republican party, established here in 1856, was overwhelmingly adopted by these northern settlers--New England was traditionally anti-slavery and this central tenant of the new Republican party caused most of Jo Daviess County to go overwhelmingly Republican. Congressman Elihu Washburne, Robert Norris, Augustus Chetlain, Simeon Miner and H.S. Townsend were key players in the formation of the party in the county.

There were two exceptions to this trend, still evident in the county today: Galena and the Dunleith-Menominee areas. Many Galenians still had economic, if not social, ties to the South. While not pro-slavery, many believed in the Democratic party's "go slow" attitude on the slavery issue and many felt that individual states should have the right of self-determination.

The Dunleith-Menominee area, like Galena, received large numbers of Irish and German Catholics. They were part of a larger movement which saw the early Catholic Church actively soliciting Catholic immigrants to come to Dubuque and the immediate area. Due to the efforts of Church leaders like Father Samuel Mazzuchelli and Bishop Loras, the Dubuque area became a safe-haven for the Catholics on an otherwise Protestant frontier. The Democratic party, after a slow start, began to actively court the Irish and Catholic vote, making much progress by the time of the Civil War. Thus, the ethnic and political nature of Jo Daviess County was largely in place by 1861 and has remained so to the present day. It was out of this wealth of peoples, occupations and values that came the self-reliance, thrift, independence and enterprise that have traditionally characterized the county's population.

The Civil War marked the end of new migrants coming into Jo Daviess County. The land had all been taken up--new settlers had to go west to find more. Agriculture was the overwhelmingly dominant industry in the county, as it had been since 1850. The coming of the Illinois Central Railroad in 1854 had given an incredible boost to commercial agriculture with wheat becoming the number one cash crop. By the time of the Civil War, the northern Illinois counties that lay along the Illinois Central Railroad represented the largest single wheat producing region in the world. After the war, stock raising took precedence.

Jo Daviess County's population peaked in the 1870s. Thereafter, most townships slowly declined in population as agriculture became increasingly mechanized and efficient, a trend still going on today. The towns and villages grew somewhat, particularly those along the railroad. Agriculture has continued as the dominant industry in most of the county, but with larger farm units and fewer farmers.

Cultural Resources

Jo Daviess County is incredibly rich in historical and cultural resources. Prehistoric archeological sites are to be found throughout the county. These include camp and settlement sites along the river valleys, Indian mounds on the bluff-tops, and rock shelters in the uplands. Significantly, these Indian groups were the first miners in the county, some having mined and traded lead for over 6,000 years. It was the presence of lead that caused the first American settlers to move into the area. The resultant mineral rush of the 1820s and 30s made Galena the largest river port north of St. Louis. The town became a mecca for easterners, southerners, Germans, Irish, English and others. They created a wealth of residential and commercial architecture that has survived to the present day. Ulysses S. Grant also came--his subsequent military and political career gave Galena national recognition. Agriculture flourished throughout the county as new communities blossomed; today, Galena, Warren and Scales Mound all have historic districts.

Despite Jo Daviess County's wealth of historical and cultural resources, no systematic county-wide survey has ever been undertaken to identify and evaluate archaeological and historical sites. Examples of successful utilization of these resources include the reconstruction of the Apple River Fort in Elizabeth, the development of East Dubuque's Gramercy Park with its Indian mounds, and the lead mines of Vinegar Hill and the Galena History Museum. Waiting to be surveyed, however, are over 600 Indian mounds, early mines and smelter sites, historic houses, barns and bridges (iron bridges in the county were surveyed in 1980 as a personal effort by Daryl Watson, using survey sheets provided by the Historic American Engineering Record - records include location, date of construction, dimensions and photographs), rural school houses, creameries, cheese factories, stagecoach stops and mill sites. These treasures, properly preserved and managed, can provide the county with significant new opportunities for educational programming, tourism and promotion. The county is also blessed with a number of historic roads/trails (in addition to Stagecoach Trail) that provide scenic vistas of rugged, unglaciated topography and storybook farms. All represent valuable county assets that enhance the cultural environment for resident and visitor alike.

JO DAVIESS COUNTY
OUTLINES OF COMMUNITY HISTORIES

Apple River

- 1854 --- Village platted in response to the coming of the Illinois Central Railroad. Population swells when people living in Millville (Apple River Canyon State Park) move to Apple River (and Warren) to be near the railroad and its commerce. William Hoskins Lumber Yard established.
- 1868 --- Village of Apple River incorporated.
- 1873 --- First High School.
- 1880 --- Population peaks at 626; listed as 414 in 1990.
- 1900 --- A number of manufacturing enterprises present: plows wagons and brooms produced. Large lumber yard and stock yard present. Stock raising, particularly Hereford cattle, is very important to the area.
- 1947 --- Stagecoach Trail ("Galena-Scales Mound Road") hard surfaced.

East Dubuque

- 1832 --- With conclusion of the Black Hawk War, settlers began moving into this part of Jo Daviess County. Eleazor Frentress takes up residence on 320 acres of land.
- 1854 --- "Dunleith" officially laid out in anticipation of the coming of the railroad.
- 1855 --- Illinois Central Railroad arrives from Galena.
- 1856 --- Town incorporated; flurry of business activity in response to the railroad.
- 1868 --- Illinois Central Railroad bridge crosses the Mississippi River, thus slowing Dunleith's rapid growth.
- 1879 --- Dunleith name changed to East Dubuque.
- 1894 --- East Dubuque Register began. 1902, 1916, 1923, 1951, 1965, 1969, 1993 all mark years of severe floods for East Dubuque.
- 1914 --- Prohibition in the State of Iowa makes East Dubuque a "watering hole" for Dubuque and eastern Iowa, changing the nature of the downtown business district.
- 1938 --- Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) improves Gramercy Park, site of 26 Indian Mounds overlooking the Mississippi River.

Elizabeth

1825 --- Lead miners moving into the area from Galena; A.P. Van Matre establishes a smelter.

1830s -- John D. Winters establishes one of the first stagecoach lines in northern Illinois.

1832 --- Black Hawk War and battle of Apple River Fort take place; settlement is named Elizabeth.

1839 --- Village is platted; mining on the decline, farmers moving to the area in large numbers.

1868 --- Village incorporated.

1887 --- Chicago Great Western Railroad comes to Elizabeth; town gets first newspaper, first bank and first lawyer; building boom results.

1910 --- Population hits 700, remains stable to present day.

1914 --- First electric street lights.

1915 --- "Grant Highway" (U.S. 20) planned (190 miles for \$3,160,000), would go through Stockton, Elizabeth, Galena. Road completed in the 1920s.

1920 --- Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau, organized the previous year, locates first office here.

Galena

1818 --- John Tyler Armstrong builds cabin on east bank of Fever River, probably in vicinity of present information center (Illinois Central Depot). First recorded permanent settlement on the Fever River.

1822 --- First mining lease granted by federal government to Col. James Johnson, who brings 20 white miners and as many slaves from Kentucky to work his claim. Winnebago Indians resist Johnson's landing, insisting they had not ceded land to the United States, as had the Sauk and Fox tribes.

1823 --- The VIRGINIA becomes the first steamboat to ascend the Mississippi River.

1826 --- First office in northern Illinois is established at the corner of Main and Perry Streets. The name "Galena" is chosen for the growing community.

1834 --- First printing of the Galena Gazette

1841 --- State legislature grants charter of incorporation to the City of Galena.

1844 --- Jo Daviess County courthouse completed on Bench Street

1845 --- Lead ore production in Galena area and adjacent Wisconsin peaks at 54 million pounds.

- 1846 --- Market House opens for business.
- 1854 --- Name of Fever River changed to Galena River by state legislature. Illinois Central Railroad arrives in Galena. Fire causes extensive damage to wooden buildings on Main Street.
- 1855 --- The DeSoto House opens for business
- 1856 --- Abraham Lincoln speaks from balcony of the DeSoto House. Worst fire ever devastates many Main Street buildings. Ordinances now prohibit buildings constructed of wood downtown.
- 1858 --- Galena's population reaches an all time high of roughly 14,000.
- 1860 --- Ulysses S. Grant moves to Galena with his family so he can work as a clerk in his father's leather goods store.
- 1861 --- War between the States breaks out. Jo Daviess Guards formed and drills on Congressman Washburne's lawn. Ulysses S. Grant trains troops, departs with militia for Springfield.
- 1865 --- Grant returns from Civil War in triumph and is given huge reception and a home in Galena.
- 1868 --- Grant runs for president. Campaign headquarters at the DeSoto House. Receives election returns in library of Elihu B. Washburne's house.
- 1874 --- Turner Hall built by the Turner Society for community events.
- 1893 --- Economic depression nationwide. Many Galena businesses fail.
- 1951 --- Construction completed on dike and floodgates, finally protecting Galena from flood waters.
- 1965 --- Galena becomes first community after Springfield to adopt a local historic preservation ordinance which established a local historic district.
- 1969 --- Over 85% of Galena is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Hanover

- 1828 --- James Craig erects saw mill, grist mill and dam.
- 1836 --- Village platted.
- 1849 --- Name changed from Wapello to Hanover.
- 1864 --- Hanover Woolen Mill organized.
- 1877 --- Village incorporated.

1917 --- 13,000 acres purchased for the Savanna Proving Grounds.

1921 --- New Woolen Mill completed (closed 1949).

1930 --- Highway 84 getting hard surfaced north to Il Rt. 5 (Hwy 20).

1960 --- Chestnut Mountain Ski Resort opens.

1965 --- Eaton Corporation opens in old woolen mill site.

Menominee

1830s -- Miners and farmers begin moving into the area, including many German and Irish

1838 --- Father Samuel Mazzuchelli begins serving the needs of the large number of Catholic settlers.

1853 --- Township named Menominee

1864 --- Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish established. BVM church building erected in 1877.

1935 --- Village of Menominee incorporated; population about 125

Nora

1853 --- Platted in response to the coming of the Illinois Central Railroad. Develops in a manner similar to other small agricultural trade centers along the railroad.

1880 --- Population peaks at 333.

1883 --- Village of Nora incorporated.

Scales Mound

1820s -- First lead miners move into the area, including some farmers.

1828 --- Elijah Charles, a permanent settler, built a log cabin at the base of what is now Charles Mound, highest point in Illinois at 1235' elevation.

1830 --- Samuel Scales settled at the base of a nearby mound (now called Scales Mound) and established a tavern and served travelers and miners coming up from Peoria and westward from Chicago. The latter route is now called Stagecoach Trail in recognition of the Frink and Walker Stage Line which ran regular stages through the county from 1841-1856.

- 1853 --- Village of Scales Mound platted in response to the coming of the Illinois Central Railroad, a magnet for farmers.
- 1877 --- Village incorporated, has become an important local trade center for farmers, but nearby lead and zinc mining are also important. Three hotels, warehouses and stockyards are present. Two-story Allen Warehouse is a focal point for community. Second floor of this structure serves as a community hall.
- 1890 --- Creamery constructed in response to growth of the dairy industry in the area.
- 1900 --- Scales Mound peaks in population at about 420; has been around 375 ever since.
- 1916 --- "Cement" sidewalks became universal and electricity comes to the village.
- 1925 --- Village motion "that six signs be printed to read 'Scales Mound Tourist Camp' and erected in conspicuous places heading into village."
- 1990 --- Scales Mound Historic District added to the National Register of Historic Places.

Stockton

- 1887 --- Village laid out on land adjacent to new Chicago Great Western Railroad Line. Area noted for rich soils, corn, cattle, horses and tobacco.
- 1890 --- Village of Stockton incorporated.
- 1909 --- Chicago Great Western established just east of town one of the largest railroad workshops on the line. Employs 150 people with a \$300,000 payroll by 1929.
- 1914 --- J.L. Kraft and Bros. Co. started when they purchased a creamery in town.
- 1950 --- Atwood Manufacturing Co. opens Stockton plant, providing seat adjusters and hood hinges to the automotive industry.

Warren

- 1851 --- Freeman Tisdell builds stone hotel (Warren Community Building), anticipating the coming of the railroad.
- 1854 --- Illinois Central Railroad passes through Warren, insuring the success of the new community and dooming its rival, Millville (Apple River Canyon State Park).
- 1857 --- Village of Warren incorporated; first newspaper started.
- 1858 --- Mineral Point Railroad comes to Warren bringing lead and zinc trade to Warren and the Illinois Central. Warren quickly becomes Jo Daviess County's second largest community.
- 1895 --- Water works installed with 102 foot tower.
- 1913 --- First electric light plant.
- 1990 --- Warren has 1,550 residents.
- 1995 --- Warren Commercial Historic District listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Woodbine (unincorporated)

- 1887 --- Coming of Chicago Great Western Railroad. Woodbine, consisting of only a few buildings south of the new tracks, gets a lift.
- 1894 --- Creamery established in town, which has become a small local trading center tied to the railroad.

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