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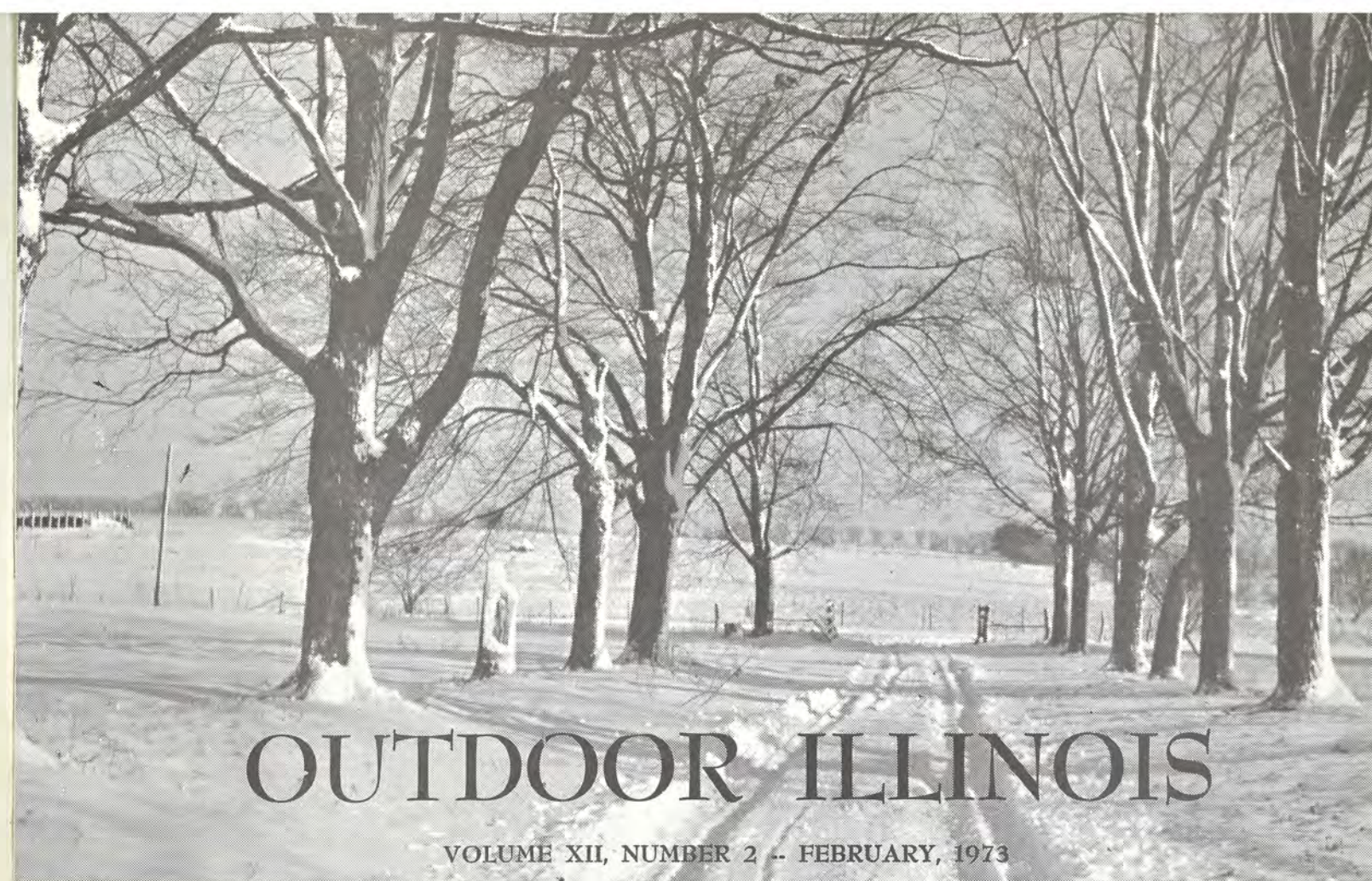
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The Magazine of Illinois



**OUTDOOR ILLINOIS**

320 SOUTH MAIN STREET, BENTON, ILLINOIS 62812



# OUTDOOR ILLINOIS

VOLUME XII, NUMBER 2 -- FEBRUARY, 1973

February day in central Illinois. Photo by Wayne Bridges.

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## COVER PICTURE

THE LAKE HOUSE in Rockford (See Page 8) is the first in a series of articles on famous Illinois architecture compiled and photographed by talented architectural historian Paul E. Sprague, of Chicago.

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## WHAT and WHERE

CAN YOU IDENTIFY this photograph of a "mountain peak" in Illinois. Hint: It's a man-made mountain.



### Last Month's Picture

THE PLOW HORSES were lined up near Arthur, Illinois, in the Amish Country, where tractor are still frowned upon. Photograph courtesy of Rockome Gardens.



## A Second Look

### A Compendium of Illinois Happenings, Events and Comment, Past and Present

#### Reminiscences of Times Past

IT ISN'T REALLY in our nature to remain silent so long, when it comes to matters concerning conservation in Illinois. But since we had a hand in past decision-making processes in the area of state conservation policy, our reticence to speak out is understandable.

But reticence is a commodity which can be carried to extremes, as a popular senator might have once said.

We have been slightly disturbed by several utterances, and by one appointment, in particular, in the new state administration.

First, the appointment:

When new Governor Walker appointed William L. Rutherford as a member of the Conservation Advisory Board, a shudder ran through the entire professional wing of the Department of Conservation. During his short one-year tenure as director of the department under former Governor Ogilvie, Rutherford displayed a total lack of perception of the Department's role in conservation in the state, as well as blissful ignorance as to how a department might be structured to pursue professional goals in a professional manner.

For several years after he left the department by request, his skeletons continued to clank out as each closet door was opened.

Among the more serious concerns, however, is the direction which will now be taken by the Department in the field of civil rights. Does Rutherford's appointment as chairman of the advisory board indicate that programs to train members of minority groups for responsible jobs in conservation will be abolished? He showed remarkably little enthusiasm for the black training program when it was proposed during his tenure, and it was only after he departed the premises that the program was put into successful use.

His erratic behavior in land acquisition has numerous chapters and verses.

In the field of management, he at one time approved one man as supervisor of parks and memorials, a post designated by statute as operating head of the division of parks and memorials, and chose another man for a new title, superintendent of parks and memorials. That debacle ended with the department employing 333 more temporary summer employees than needed — more, in fact, than the department had money to recompense. When the mess was discovered by another department administrator, Rutherford hastily asked him to "take care of it, won't you?", as he fled down the hall on the way to a hastily-scheduled vacation to Hawaii.

We know of the man, and we find it sad that he is near the seat of operations again. And so do department professionals.

And then, the utterances which bothered us:

The threat to "retaliate" against those senators and representatives who voted to over-ride his amendatory veto of the urban transit bill indicated that the new governor of Illinois, Daniel Walker, would play for the grandstand in preference to putting forth an attainable program. The politics of confusion which he masterfully displayed in the 1972 campaign should now be abandoned and a new tack taken. A governor must be a governor for all the governed, not just for those who grasp their forelock and bow low in obeisance.

And finally, the recent state news release which indicated that Rangers in the Division of Parks and Memorials would be responsible for securing added land for the state, by donation or by securing free use of the land from private

owners for members of the public, strikes us as a sad commentary on how not to run a railroad.

In 1970, at the insistence of the then acting director of the Department of Conservation, and concurred in by Gov. Ogilvie, the patronage system was replaced by a new ranger series which stressed greater educational requirements and brought a salary schedule which would make the positions attractive to professionals. At the same time, training programs were instituted which were aimed at improving the management at state parks and memorials.

To assign rangers to activities outside their jurisdiction and purview again indicates a lack of both judgment and good sense.

Welcome to the fray, fellows.



### Original Jolliet-Marquette Schedule

LAST MONTH we outlined the schedule of events this summer for the numerous stops along the re-enactment trail of Louis Jolliet's historic voyage of discovery in the Illinois Country. It occurred to us that you might also be interested in the original journey, and the chronology of the trip:

| Date    | Reliability | Occasion                                                   |
|---------|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| May 27  | Definite    | Left St. Ignace with 5 French companions.                  |
| May 27  | Definite    | Arrived at St. Francois Xavier Mission, foot of Green Bay. |
| June 7  | Definite    | Arrived Mascouten village, near present-day Berlin, Wis.   |
| June 10 | Definite    | Left present-day Berlin, Wis.                              |
| June 14 | Estimated   | Reached Wisconsin River at present-day Portage, Wis.       |
| June 17 | Definite    | Reached Mississippi River.                                 |
| June 25 | Definite    | Vitisted Peoria Indians in Iowa near Oakville.             |
| July 5  | Estimated   | Examined Piasa Bird near present-day Alton, Ill.           |
| July 6  | Estimated   | Saw mouth of the Missouri River.                           |
| July 7  | Reached     | Tamaroa Village, maybe near present-day Cahokia, Ill.      |

July 8 — Estimated, Reached Grand Tower.  
 July 9 — Estimated, Reached mouth of the Ohio River.  
 July 12 — Estimated, Reached present-day Memphis.  
 July 16 — Definite, Arrived Arkansas River.  
 July 17 — Definite, Started return.  
 Aug. 1 — Estimated, Back to mouth of Ohio.  
 Aug. 15 — Estimated, Lower portion of Illinois River.  
 Aug. 20 — Estimated, Vicinity Kaskaskia Indians near present-day Starved Rock.  
 Sept. 1 — Estimated, Through the Chicago portage.  
 Sept. 19 — Estimated, Ended journey at St. Francois Xavier Mission, Green Bay.

### Small But Fine

WE RECEIVED in the mail, just today, a dandy little book, *The Prairie—Swell and Swale*, by Torkel Korling, with an introduction by Dr. Robert F. Betz.

Korling has put together 64 full color plates of flowering prairie plants in this 4½ x 7" book, showing each plant in color, closeup, in its preferred habitat.

The introduction by Dr. Betz is an excellent, short and very knowledgeable treatment of prairies; what they are, how they are formed, and the plants which make them different. Dr. Betz, professor of biology at Northeastern Illinois University and a research associate in botany of the Field Museum, has been active in the effort to preserve Markham Prairie, which readers will remember from Joyce Brukoff's article in the April 1972 issue.

"The Prairie" is apparently the first in a series of books planned by Korling on wild plants in flower. We have written the author, in Dundee, Illinois for information on price and availability of the book, which we will pass on to you as we receive it.

### Cook-Downstate

FROM TIME almost immemorial, the smaller-minded politicians of Illinois have stimulated vague feeling of mistrust between Cook County and "downstate" Illinois. The mistrust has been advanced in the area of collection of taxes, and in the area of expenditures of taxes collected. It has been shown as an undoubted fact-beyond the shadow of a doubt, in fact-that Cook County gets most of our tax money, or that "downstate" gets most of Cook's.

We mention it at this time because there are those who carry those feelings beyond the bounds of reason.

We know some downstaters, perforce, who pulled for New Trier "because it was downstate."

Not us, by cracky. We pulled for Hirsch because they were on the south side of Chicago.

### Suffer No More

THOSE READERS who have suffered through our recent juxtaposition of issues — receiving the March before the January and February — are entitled to a logical exposition of the reasoning behind our thinking.

Well, we will never take that away from you. You are still entitled.

### Mild to One

THE WEATHER through the lately departed winter has been of such unusual temperateness that it deserved remarking upon. Not in our memory have we been treated to so mild a winter season.

But, to paraphrase the old saying, it is a modest wind that doesn't do someone some bad.

We refer to the Spring issue of *Wisconsin Trails*, published at Madison, Wisconsin, in which publisher Howard Mead remarks upon the late departed winter in Wisconsin:

"Well, that was one sad excuse for a winter. We may as well all live in southern Illinois. A couple more winters like this one and our kids will be like the students who come here from the Deep South and go into ecstasies over their first snowflake."

Listen, Howard, your normal winter is so bad by our standards that anyone who enjoys it is a snowflake.

The worst day for cool in our memory was a cold February day spent on Pistakee Lake, in Lake County a few miles south of the Wisconsin border, in company with a bunch of fools who called themselves ice-sailing enthusiasts. It was June before we were thawed out, although we will admit that whipping downwind in an iceboat is not the worst way to spend a day. Just the coldest. Like, it should have been Wisconsin.

### Fort de Chartres: Troubles?

WE HAVE been confused by the recent spate of news releases from Springfield, attesting to the decision by the new state administration to discontinue purchasing land, "stockpiling it" we believe the phrase was, and begin to make the land purchased the past few years available "for the people."

And at the same time, at Fort de Chartres, where the park size was considerably increased by the past administration, the decision has apparently been made to abolish the interpretation position at the park, and close the museum down except for the summer months.

Would someone kindly take us by the hand and explain this to us? It sounds like double-speak. Or, worse luck, it sounded like an administration that didn't have its helmet on straight.

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We hope those folks in Randolph and Monroe counties who are interested will take a hand in informing the administration that talk doesn't alter the fact that Fort de Chartres is still the premier French regime historic site in the midwest, and that to slight it is to alter history.

Or is that the design?

### Goshen Road Caravan

A TENTATIVE ITINERARY for our projected Goshen Road Caravan, on May 5 and 6, has been put together for those interested in taking part. Plans are still in the formulative stage, but beginning to firm up fast as they say in the higher echelons of society.

This magazine is sponsoring the caravan in the belief that if we don't, no one else will. Which, if you are one of those deep-thinker types, might lead you to believe that the magazine enjoys participating in Quixotic adventures.

Well, we have been known to spend hours in silent contemplation of how to best serve a self-server, and even more thought to catching up to old adversaries.

Why not an occasional foray into something constructive?

Herewith, then, is our tentative schedule for retracing the Goshen Road:

### GOSHEN ROAD CARAVAN

May 5-6, 1973

Saturday, May 5:

- 10 a.m. Shawneetown. Tour of Shawneetown Historic sites.
- 1 p.m. Old Slave House, mile south of Junction 13-1. Fee for those who tour the house. Caravan will then visit Great Indian Salt Spring (Lower Lick), Equality, Eldorado, Broughton, Walpole, Dahlgren and Mt. Vernon.

Sunday, May 6:

- 10 a.m. U. S. 460 east of Mt. Vernon at state rest area. Dedication of Goshen Road trail marker by Illinois State Historical Society and Jefferson County Historical Society.
- Tour will proceed to Dix on State 37, then take the original Goshen Road to Walnut Hill, Centralia, then existing roads to Carlyle for lunch at Hi De Ho Restaurant, and resume tour through Frogtown, Jamestown, Highland and Edwardsville.
- 3 p.m. Dedication of Goshen Road trail marker on grounds of Lewis and Clark Library, Edwardsville, by Illinois State Historical Society.
- Additional information on the tour will be available in the April issue of *Outdoor Illinois*.



ROCKFORD'S Lake House, owned by the Swedish-American Hospital, from the north front, looking south.

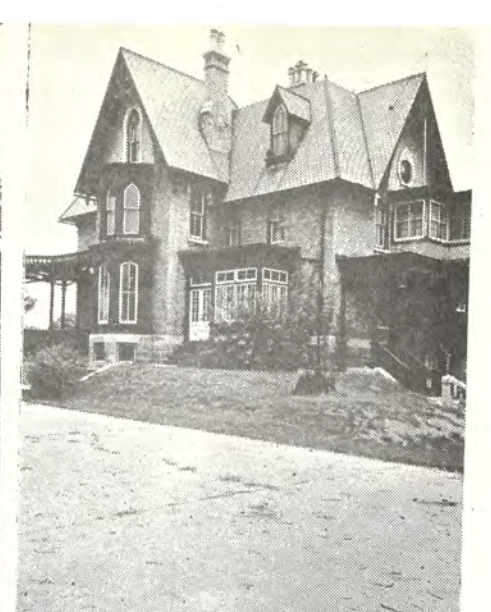
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FRONT, looking southeast



SIDE, looking east

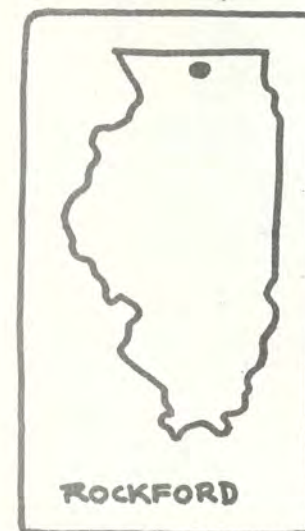


REAR, looking northeast

# The Lake House In Rockford

Famous Illinois Architecture: I

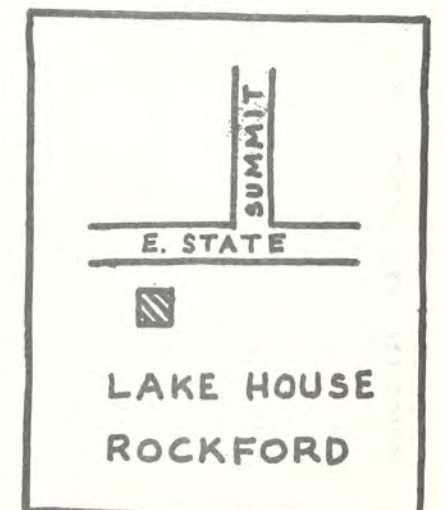
Text and Photography by PAUL SPRAGUE

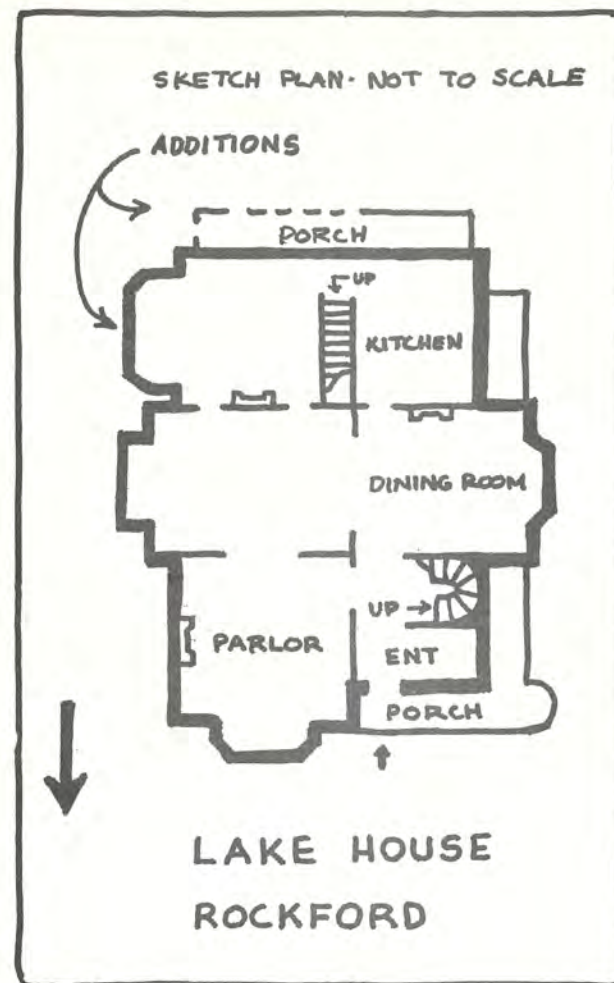


FEBRUARY, 1973

JOHN LAKE, born March 27, 1821, in Selworthy Parish, England, emigrated to the United States in 1837 and settled in Rockford, Illinois. In 1852 he entered the first of several successive partnerships in the lumber trade. His last was with Seely Perry, begun in the spring of 1868 immediately after his return from a visit to England. No doubt there is some connection between his English trip and the style of the impressive residence that he began for his family in 1873 on East State Street in Rockford.

The style is Victorian Gothic, fairly common in England at the time, but





rarely used for residences in this country. The design is of so high a quality that there was most certainly an architect involved even though his name is not known to us. The plans may indeed have been brought by Lake from England. Even the carriage house is a delightful essay in a fanciful Gothic. That Lake was in the lumber business and apparently also occasionally acted as a contractor is sufficient to explain the high quality of materials and workmanship.

The warm yellow brick of the exterior walls blends nicely with the light stone of the foundations and window moldings and contrasts agreeably with the darker wood of the porches, bay windows, traceried barge boards and decorative gables. The details are exquisitely designed and executed. Some of them, such as the door-plates, were probably purchased from American or European manufacturers of architectural hardware. The interior planning, which is as irregular as the exterior mas-

THE ORIGINAL dining room, looking west. The fireplace is a variation on the one in the living room. Notice the intricate plaster moldings and finely polished woodwork.



OUTDOOR. ILLINOIS



THE STAIRCASE to the second floor.



THE FRONT DOOR.

sing, produces a relatively open feeling with hardly any axial emphasis. Later additions in a more historic Gothic style enlarged the original house considerably on its southeast side, making it difficult to recover with certainty the original plan in that area. It would appear, however, that there was a front and rear parlor on that side with the kitchen and probably a servant's room making up the rear of the house.

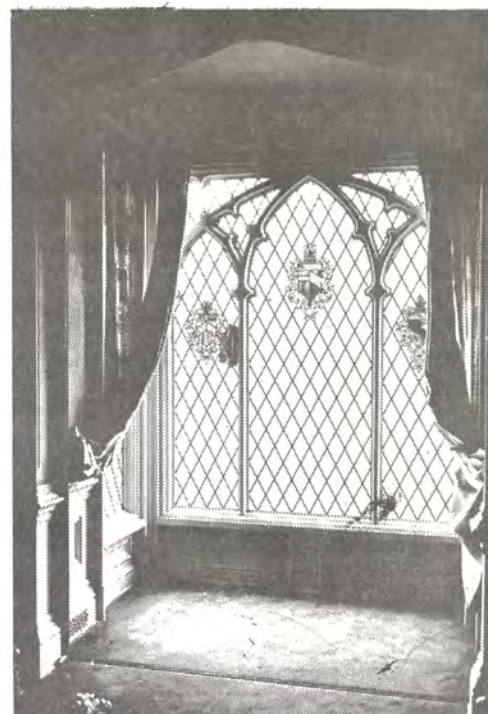
Lake continued to live in the house until his death in 1907, after which it remained in the family until 1918 when it was sold to Pehr A. Peterson, who subsequently deeded it to the Swedish-American Hospital. When I visited this fine old residence several summers ago, it was no longer wanted by the hospital and stood vacant. A couple of scavengers were inside looking at the woodwork in gleeful anticipation of the profit they would realize when the house was demolished. This is what is happening to your cultural heritage all over Illinois. Doesn't anyone care?

FIREPLACE IN front parlor. The style is a kind of simplified classicism. Such marble fireplaces were factory-made and could be ordered from catalogues.





DOORPLATE on front door.

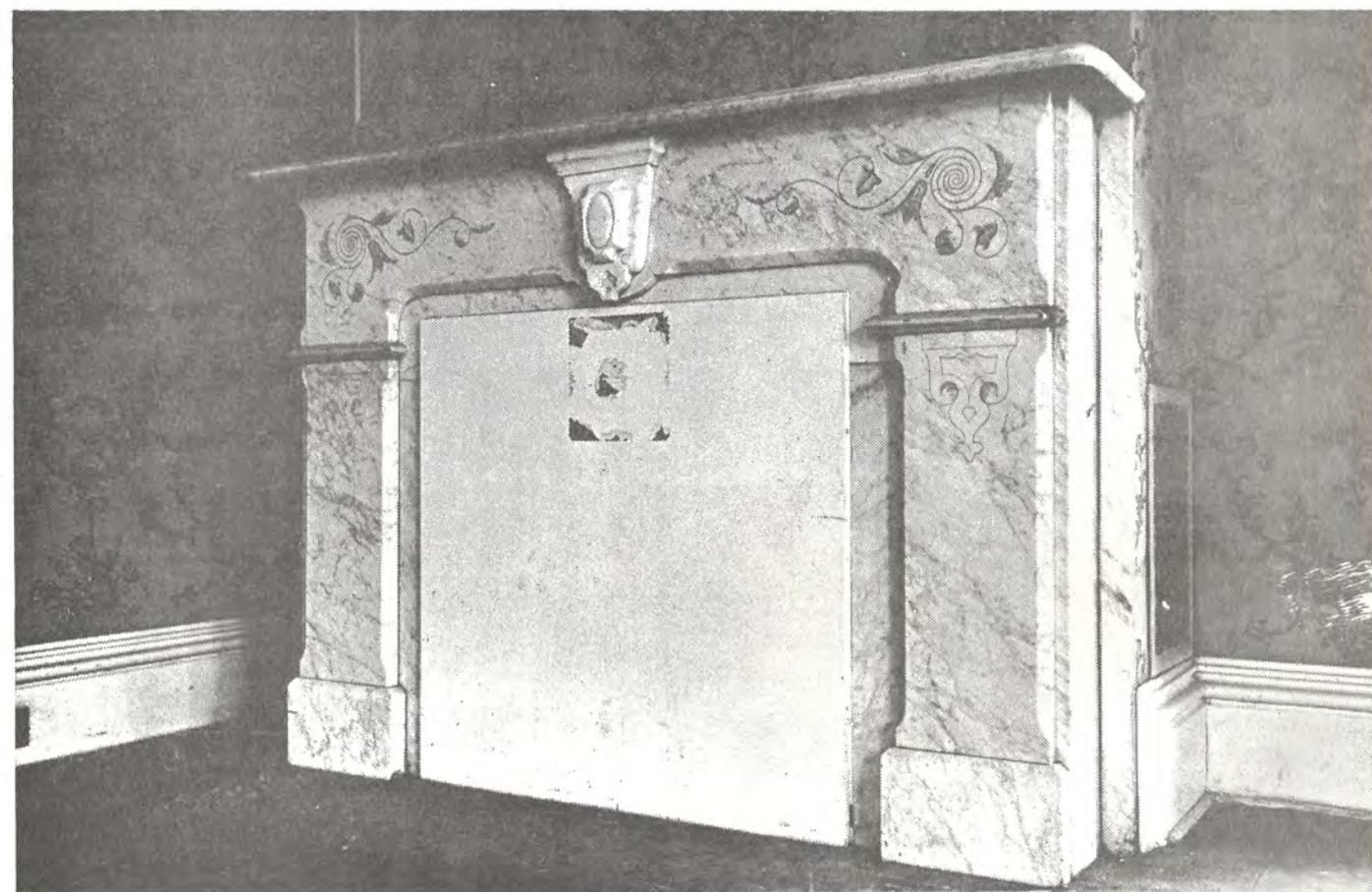


BAY may be later addition.



THE CARRIAGE HOUSE.

FIREPLACE in one of the bedrooms.



DETAIL at front of house.



THOMAS LINCOLN'S two-room log cabin on Goose Nest Prairie, eight miles south of Charleston.

## Settlement Mosses of Lincoln's Time

By John Jester and C. B. Arzeni

IN 1831, AFTER two unsuccessful attempts at settlement in Illinois, Thomas and Sarah Bush Lincoln started back to Indiana. En route, they stopped in Coles County where Thomas Lincoln was persuaded to settle and give Illinois another chance. During this time, tall, lanky Abraham had departed on a trading trip to New Or-

leans. A few weeks later, Abe walked from St. Louis to his parents' new home in Buck Grove, a few miles west of Charleston, Illinois, and after a short visit, he headed off to a new job in New Salem.

Thomas Lincoln moved again in 1834 to a farm half a mile southeast of Lerna, and then twice again in 1837.

The second move of that year brought him to an 80-acre farm at Goose Nest Prairie, site of the present Lincoln Log Cabin Park, 8 miles south of Charleston where most of our Lincoln Land mosses were collected. In 1840, Thomas Lincoln added 40 acres to his farm with financial assistance from his son Abe.

During his 14 years residence at Goose Nest Prairie, Thomas Lincoln constructed a two room log cabin. The original cabin was lost when it was being returned from the Chicago Exposition in 1934, but a more sound replica now stands on the original site at Lincoln Log Cabin State Park.

After his father's death in 1851, Abe Lincoln retained the farm for his stepmother, Sarah Lincoln, where she lived until her death in 1869.

Abraham Lincoln made his last visit to Illinois in 1861, when he visited with his stepmother at the home of Mrs. Matilda Moore, Sarah Lincoln's daughter. It was here at the Moore House, another collecting site, that he ate his last meal with his stepmother before leaving for his inauguration in Washington.

Thomas and Sarah Lincoln are both buried in the Shiloh Cemetery, which is located 4 miles northwest of Lincoln Log Cabin State Park. The ceme-

\* \* \*

*"The tiny moss, whose silken verdure clothes*

*The time-worn rock, and whose bright capsules rise,*

*Like fairy suns on stalks of golden sheen,*

*Demand our admiration and our praise,*

*As much as cedar, kissing the blue sky,*

*Or Krub's giant flower. God made them all,*

*And what He deigns to make should ne'er be deemed*

*Unworthy of our study and our love."*

—author unknown

\* \* \*

tery also yielded some interesting specimens of mosses.

Thomas Lincoln's Goose Nest Prairie farm is now included in the Lincoln Log Cabin State Park. Due to the preservation of the area, the moss flora has probably changed very little since Thomas Lincoln's days.

Most of the mosses of this area are small and inconspicuous. There are, however, some larger and historically useful bryophytes found in this area. The Lincoln's could have used mosses for bedding and pillows as some settlers did at that time. Certain species of mosses were used as chinking in fire-

THE MOORE HOUSE, located 5 miles south of Charleston, is now owned by the State of Illinois.





DISTANT VIEW of Thomas Lincoln's cabin showing some of the area where mosses were collected.

places because they were considered to be non-flammable. Mosses were also used to plug cracks in the walls of log cabins and as wedging material to help steady foundation stones.

Sarah Lincoln possibly knew of the medicinal value of the hairy-cap, *Polypodium ohioense* or *P. commune*, which has astringent properties and can be used to stop bleeding. It can be given alone or combined with wild carrot to make a tea as a remedy for dropsy, kid-

ney stones, other urinary obstructions, and fluid retention.

Historically and also up to the present time, mosses were commonly used as packaging material. The smaller mosses of the area were probably of little direct importance to the Lincolns, however; indirectly they played an important part in the lives of pioneers. The young sporophytes rich in protoplasm served as food for the lower animals in the food chain.

Mosses and liverworts make up the pioneer vegetation in plant community succession because they can survive the adverse conditions of barren, weathered areas and thus set up a substrate for higher plant invasion. It has also been noted that on many woodland hillsides,

mosses act as a major factor in erosion control.

Throughout history there have been many references to mosses in stories and poems. One quotation from a poem, "Little Sermon of Peace", by Willis Boyd Allen, seems appropriate to these plants and their habitats as no doubt observed by the Lincoln family.

*"Humblest creatures of the wood  
To your peaceful brotherhood  
Sweet the promise that was given  
Like the dew from Heaven  
'Blessed are the meek  
They shall inherit the earth',  
Thus are the words fulfilled  
Over all the earth  
Mosses find a home secure."*

Today, with the exception of *Sphagnum*, or peat moss, few mosses are of little direct value to man. They do not add to his material wealth, supply him with food, nor contribute to his comfort. But if one looks at the historic uses by various cultures and considers the innumerable potentialities of the future, both direct and indirect, their true value can be appreciated.



THOMAS LINCOLN'S ORIGINAL stone grave marker. The edges have been chipped away by souvenir hunters.

TILTING 1800's tombstones fill the original portion of Shiloh Cemetery near Charleston.



The following is a list plus habitat and ethnic remarks of some of the more common mosses of Lincoln Land:

*Aulacomium heterostichum* — frequent on moist shaded soil.

*Bryum argenteum* — commonly called the "silvery Bryum" because of the colorless leaf tips. This species most typically grows in man-made habitats such as cracks in paving and sidewalks.

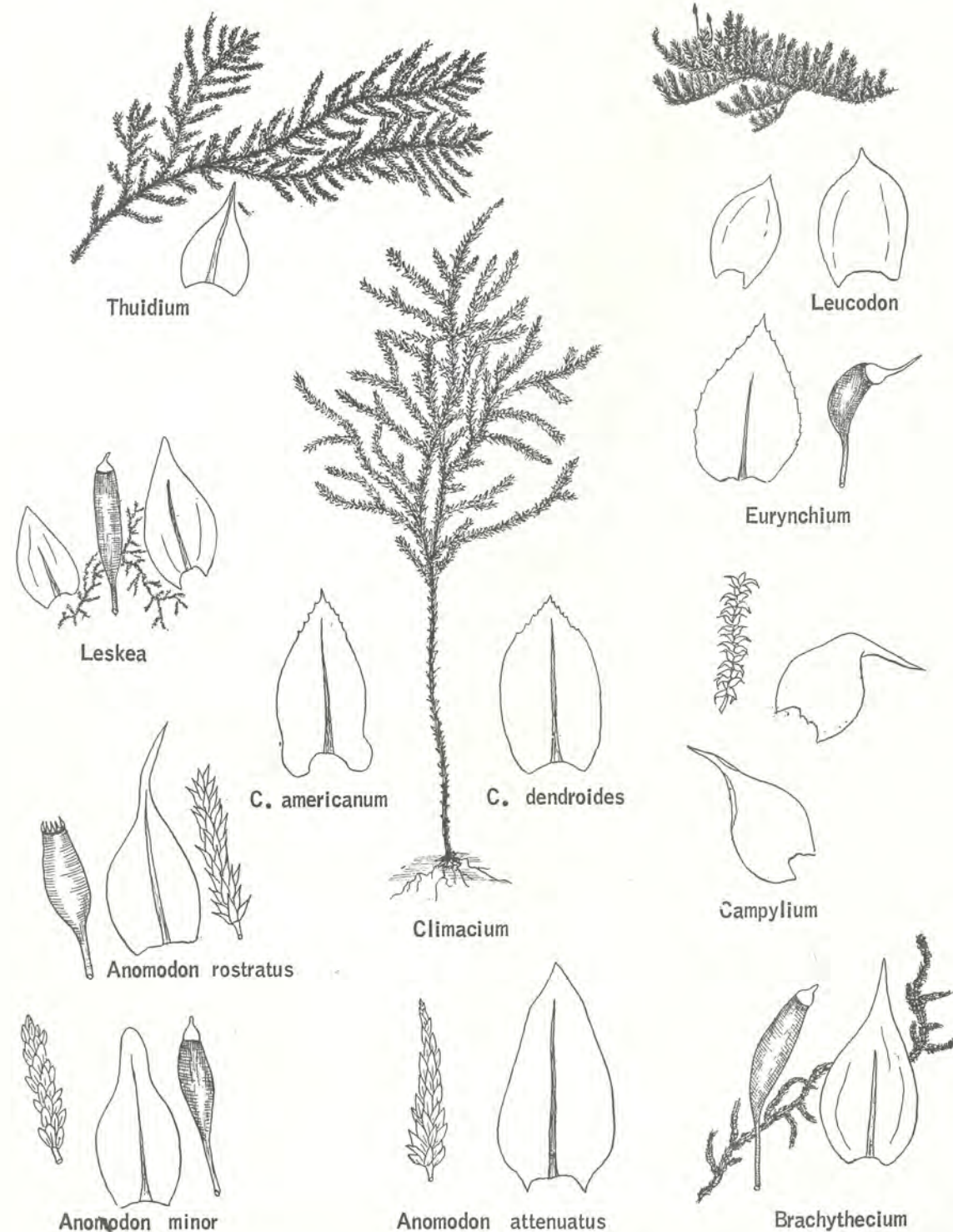
*Dicranum scoparium* — called the "broom moss" and "wind blown moss" because of the stout curved leaves. Its robust size would make it valuable as a packaging or bedding material.

*Ditrichum pallidum* — common on acid, sandy soil.

*Pleuridium subulatum* — this moss is a colonist of bare patches on soil deficient in lime.

*Fissidens obtusifolius* — frequent inhabitant of hydric environments.

*Polytrichum ohioense* — commonly called the Hair-cap moss because of the hairs emerging from the calyptra. Historically this moss and related species have been used as bedding and packaging material due to their large size, as well as the medicinal uses previously stated.



# THE "STONE FORTS" OF ILLINOIS

Walter L. Brieschke and  
Frank Rackerby  
University Museum  
Southern Illinois University  
at Carbondale

THE SO-CALLED "stone forts" of southern Illinois have been a mystery since the late 1700's when Col. Leonard White was sent to this region after the Revolutionary war (Moyers 1934:184). Over the years, it has been suggested that they are (1) defensive fortifications, (2) corrals for containment of wild and/or domesticated animals, (3) pounds, or game traps and (4) special use/ceremonial or living sites of prehistoric Indians. These "forts" are located on inaccessible bluff tops above 500 feet in elevation on the periphery of the present Shawnee National Forest. A wall of stone usually was built across the easiest routes to the top of these bluffs.

There are two major published articles that inventory these sites in southern Illinois — William N. Moyers' "The Wonders of Egypt" in 1934, and Irvin M. Peithmann's 1953 work, "Stone Forts, Corrals, or Pounds." Moyers gives the first comprehensive description and Peithmann reviews the earlier work and adds one new location to the list. There are some discrepancies be-

tween these two articles but these are basically changes of site names. For purposes of clarification a correlated list of these sites is given by authors.

Locations are left out for the sake of brevity. For further information we refer interested persons to the two articles by Peithmann and Moyers.

Moyers 1934

War Bluff  
Giant City  
Old Stone Fort  
The Pounds  
Draper's Bluff  
Cornish Bluff  
Water Lane Pound  
(Not listed)

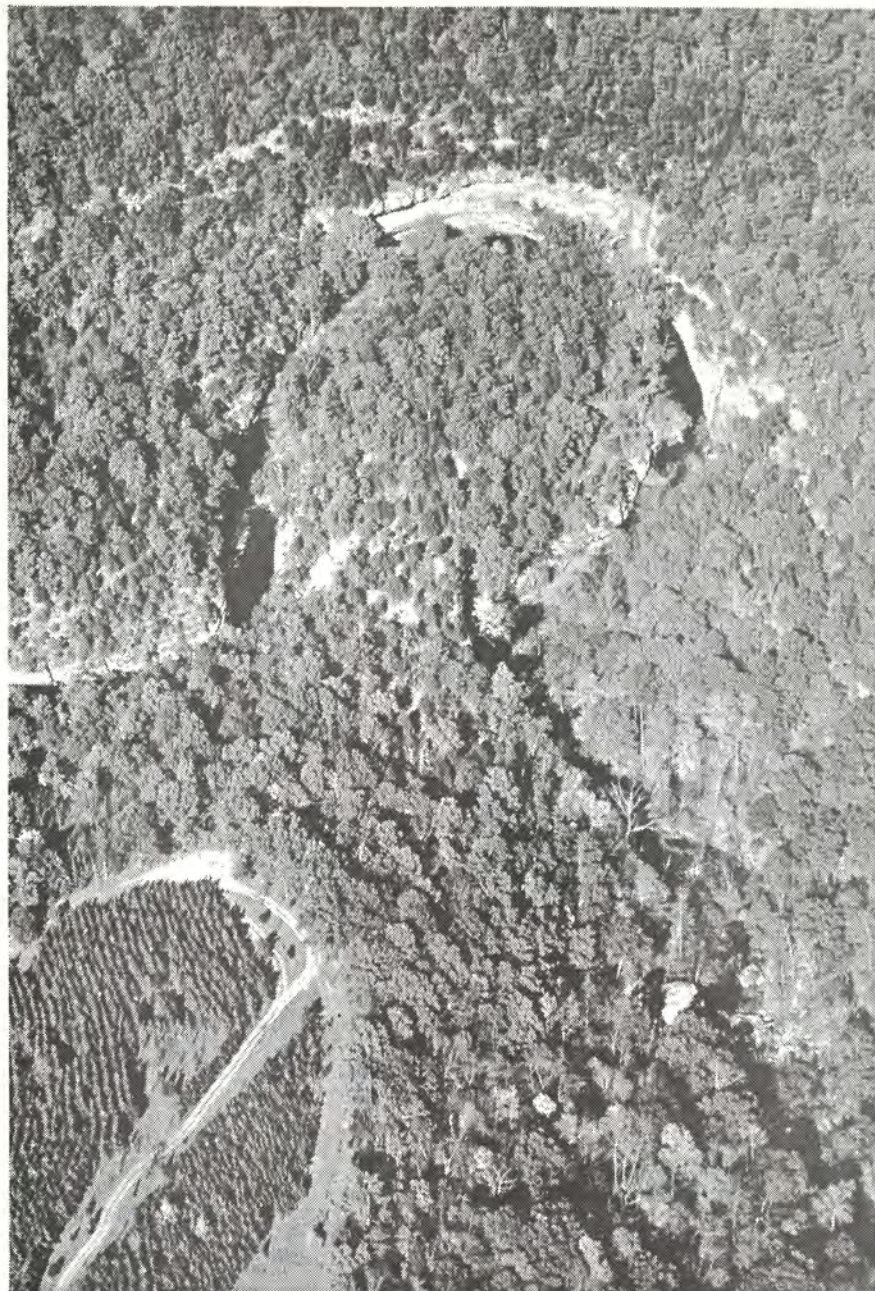
Peithmann 1953

War Bluff  
Giant City  
Stonefort  
The Pounds  
Draper's Bluff  
Trigg Stone Fort/Cornish Bluff  
Indian Kitchen  
Thomas Stone Fort (New)  
Peithmann lists Trigg and Cornish Bluff as separate sites; however, when

we checked out the local history we found that they are the same location with two different names.

Recently, with the help of local residents, Southern Illinois University Museum archaeologists have located and recorded two more sites, Hog Bluff in Johnson county, and Mill Stone Bluff in Pope county. There is now a total of 10 such sites recorded for southern Illinois. All of the large, spectacular "stone forts" have been recorded; there is a strong probability that several of the smaller ones have been missed, being located in remote sections of the Shawnee National Forest.

Within the state these "forts" are found only in the southern part of Illinois. As for eastern North America as a whole, similar stone-walled prehistoric sites are found in Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Missouri, Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia, Tennessee, and New York (Franke 1964). The stone walled sites must not be confused with prehistoric enclosures of earth and stone, or geometrical earth works found throughout eastern North America,



HAIRPIN TURN on Lusk Creek in Pope County. At the neck of the peninsula (center) Indian stone wall runs from bluff edge to bluff edge.

which generally date to the Middle Woodland period (B.C. 200-A.D. 400.)

In attempting to understand these sites, the first question that needs answering is: What is the age of our southern Illinois "forts?" And secondly: What is their relationship to other stone walled sites in eastern North America? The answer to the second question will take far more time and future effort to obtain. It can be stated at this time, however, that a relationship did exist because we know, on the basis of other investigations, that the prehistoric In-

dians of southern Illinois were trading and interacting with prehistoric Indian groups in other areas.

\* \* \*

During the summer of 1972 the University Museum continued archaeological site location and excavation work in Hardin, Saline, Gallatin and Johnson counties. This work was funded by the Illinois Department of Conservation's Historic Sites Survey program. One of the recorded sites chosen for excavation was a small "stone fort" site in Johnson

county known as Hog Bluff (SIU Museum No. 25A3-12). This site was shown to Museum archaeologists in 1971 by an interested local Indian artifact collector. Without the kind help of such individuals we would never know as much as we do about site locations in this region.

Hog Bluff was chosen for test excavation because of its (1) size (1½ acres) — it is relatively small and therefore easier to test excavate, requiring little money and personnel; (2) the fact that identifiable pottery fragments were found on the surface unlike the other known "stone forts" in southern Illinois; and (3) it had never been plowed, therefore it was relatively undisturbed.

The site is located in the Shawnee National Forest, and it was necessary to obtain a federal permit for excavation; under federal Antiquities laws it is illegal to dig up or collect from the surface historical materials on federally owned lands. Through the excellent cooperation of Forest Service personnel the necessary papers and permits were obtained and in August excavation was begun. It was hoped that these excavations would begin to answer some basic questions about the "stone forts."

The artifacts recovered from the excavations fit the types that are known to archaeologists as belonging to the Lewis Focus, the name given to Late Woodland Period sites in southern Illinois. This archaeological culture dates to approximately 600-900 A.D. One should consult Fay-Cooper Cole's 1951 book, "Kincaid: a Prehistoric Illinois Metropolis" for a detailed discussion of this culture, including illustrations of typical artifacts from this time period.

Previously these "forts" were thought to be Archaic (800-1000 B.C.) in age. A close reading of the literature, however, indicates that this term was used by Moyers (1934) strictly in the sense of "old;" he spelled "archaic" in lower case letters. Subsequently people have interpreted this to be the archaeological time period labeled as "Archaic" which is much earlier and denotes a type of wandering and gathering pattern of life quite different from the sedentary Late Woodland pattern.

Two sections of the stone wall were excavated at Hog Bluff. Its base was

OUTDOOR ILLINOIS

nine feet across. Due to the ravages of time and some vandalism only a few rocks remained to indicate its height. It would have been several feet high but it is impossible to estimate its original height because of limited information. Lewis pottery was found on and under the rocks of the wall.

In addition, a possible structure, a midden area (prehistoric garbage dump), and forty-seven 5' x 5' square were excavated randomly over the site.

The structure was defined by the heavy concentration of fire-cracked sandstone rock, a metate (large stone, containing a smooth, dish-shaped depression, used for grinding food), two round ground stone hand mullers, numerous pot sherds, a few knife blades, projectile points (arrow heads), flint chips, and daub (fire-hardened clay used for plastering structure walls).

The midden area was defined by an area of dark soil, which differed considerably in color from the surrounding yellow loess (wind-blown clay); this area contained numerous bone fragments, flint chips, and broken pottery sherds with only a few projectile points and broken pottery rim sherds. The significance of this "trash pit" lies in the fact that the bone and seed remains indicate that the Indians were processing and eating food on top of this bluff.

Together with the evidence from the structure and midden it is possible to infer that the Indians were living on top of the bluff at least part of the year. It is hoped that when the analysis of the plant and animal remains is completed it will shed some light on the possible season of occupancy of the site. The bone presently is being analyzed by an ethnozoologist at the University of Louisville; his report should contain many insights into the dietary habits of these Late Woodland Indians.

We now have answered one important question. We know the general time of occupation of these "stone forts." But, in addition, we have generated many more questions. For example, what was the function of this type of site? (Village site, fortification, hunting camp?) What part of the year were they occupied? How do the "stone forts" of Illinois relate to "stone forts" of the surrounding states?

Let us look at some of the additional  
FEBRUARY, 1973



CLOSEUP OF stones excavated at wall atop Hog Bluff, in Johnson County.

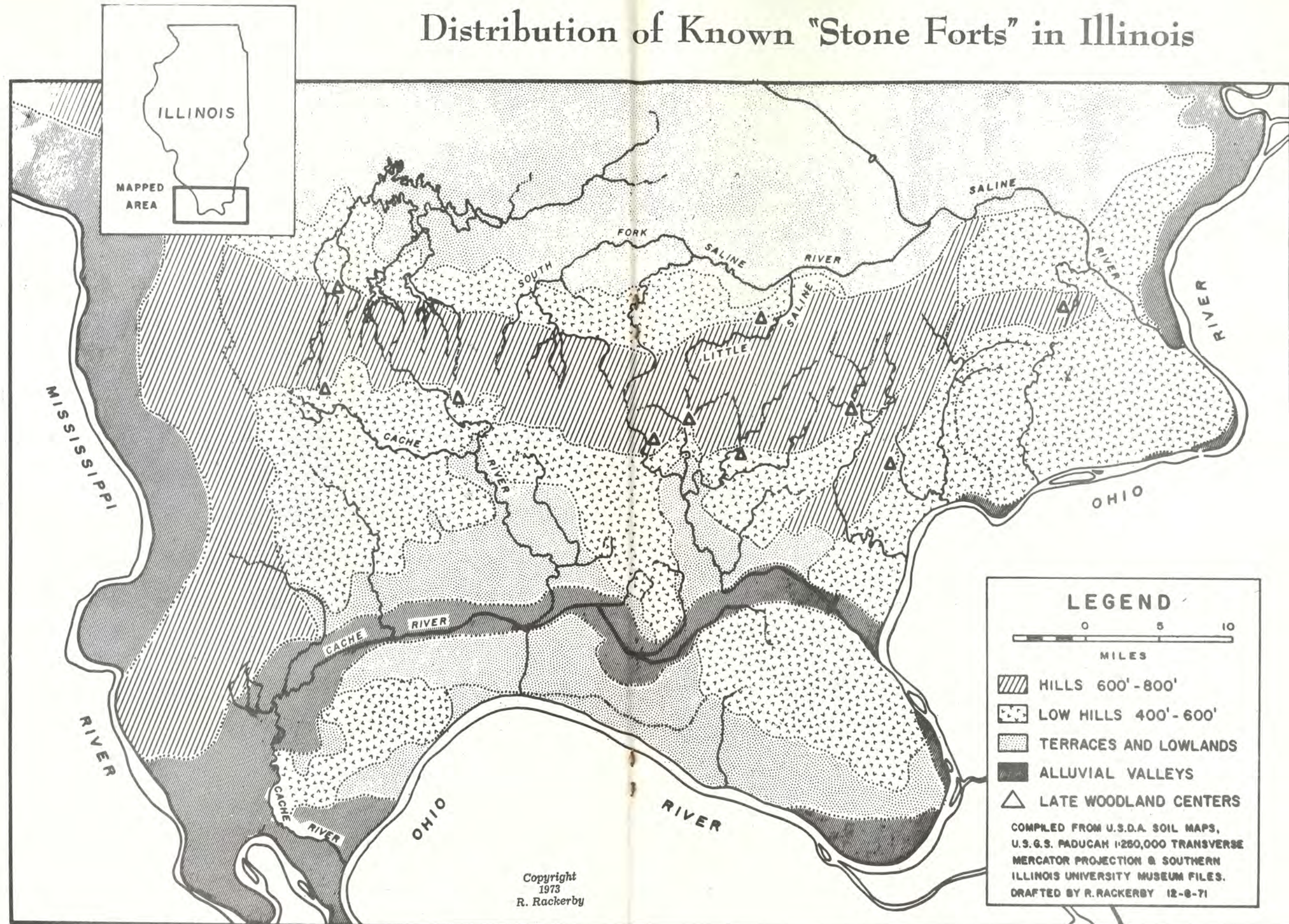
evidence from Hog Bluff. The potsherds recovered are predominantly "cord-impressed," with exterior lip notching on the rims; there are a few examples with incised designs. Unfortunately no whole pottery vessels were recovered to give us an idea of the different shapes or complete design patterns. These rim fragments are similar to Raymond pottery from north of Carbondale (Maxwell 1951:207), to Late Woodland pottery found at the Carlyle reservoir (Rackerby 1968:87, and Binford 1966:10), to the LaMotte and Albee "cultures" in the Wabash Valley

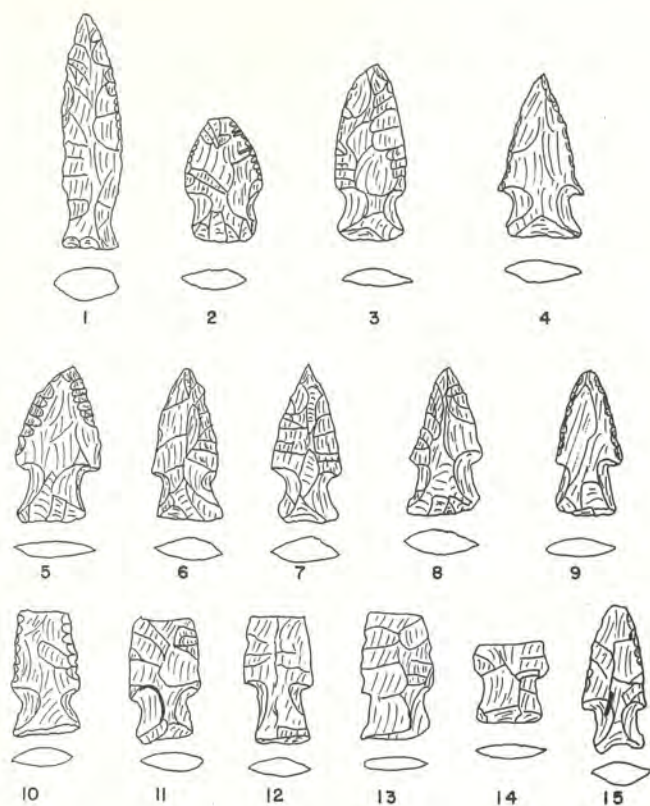
(Winters 1967:52-66), and the Patrick Phase at Cahokia (Fowler and Hall 1972:2-3).

The other category of artifacts that are sensitive indicators of their cultural origin are the projectile points. We recovered a total of fifteen fragments and whole points, all of which are known as Lewis Focus Type (Cole 1951:169), Klunk Side-Notched (Perino 1971:101), Lowe Flare Based (Winters 1967) and styles found at the Raymond Site (Maxwell 1951:200 plate 25).

While the above does not answer all of our questions on the relationship of

# Distribution of Known "Stone Forts" in Illinois





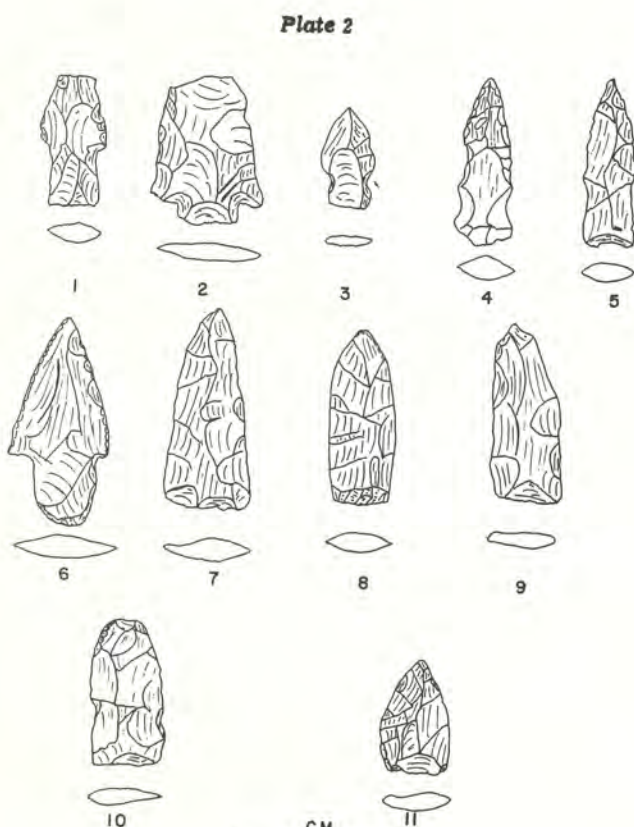
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CENTIMETERS

Plate 1



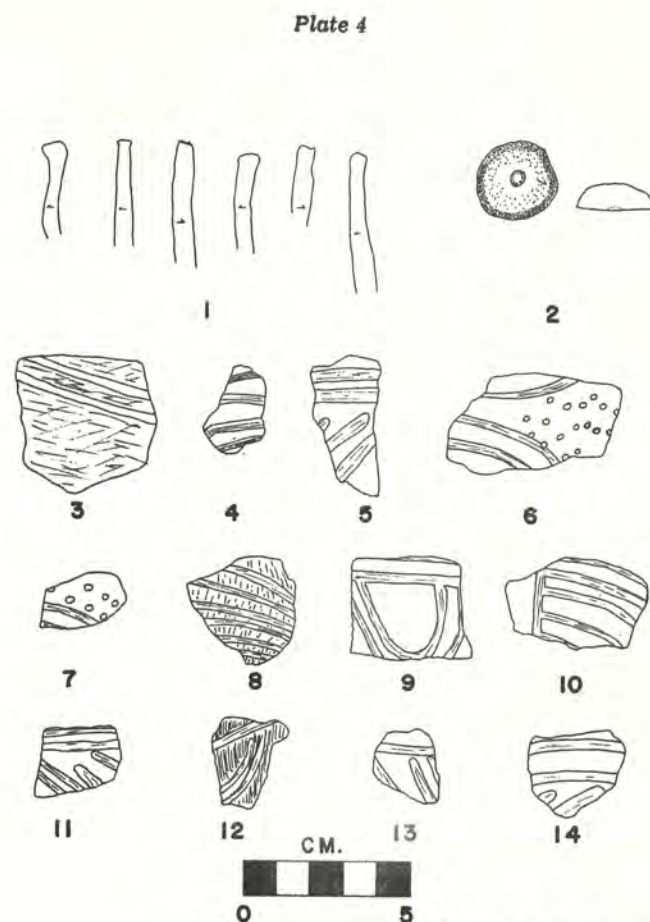
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Plate 3



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0 1 2 3 4 5

Plate 2



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Plate 4

Plate 1. Projectile points: 1 & 2, Giant City Stone Fort. 3-15, Hog Bluff Stone Fort.

Plate 2. Projectile points and knives, Hog Bluff.

Hog Bluff to other areas, it is indicative that in Late Woodland times (600-900 A.D.) in the Midwest there was great artifact homogeneity which could mean the area was inhabited by very similar cultural groups.

Archaeologists always are asked the question, what were the Indians doing at a particular site or in a particular region? This is a very hard question to answer and in part depends on the information preserved in the archaeological sites. We know that these "Lewis People" (to use a general term to characterize the Indian groups that made these artifacts) inhabited open village sites in the river bottoms, and on bluff tops, rock shelters, mounds, and now "stone forts", not to mention small hunting camp sites throughout the area.

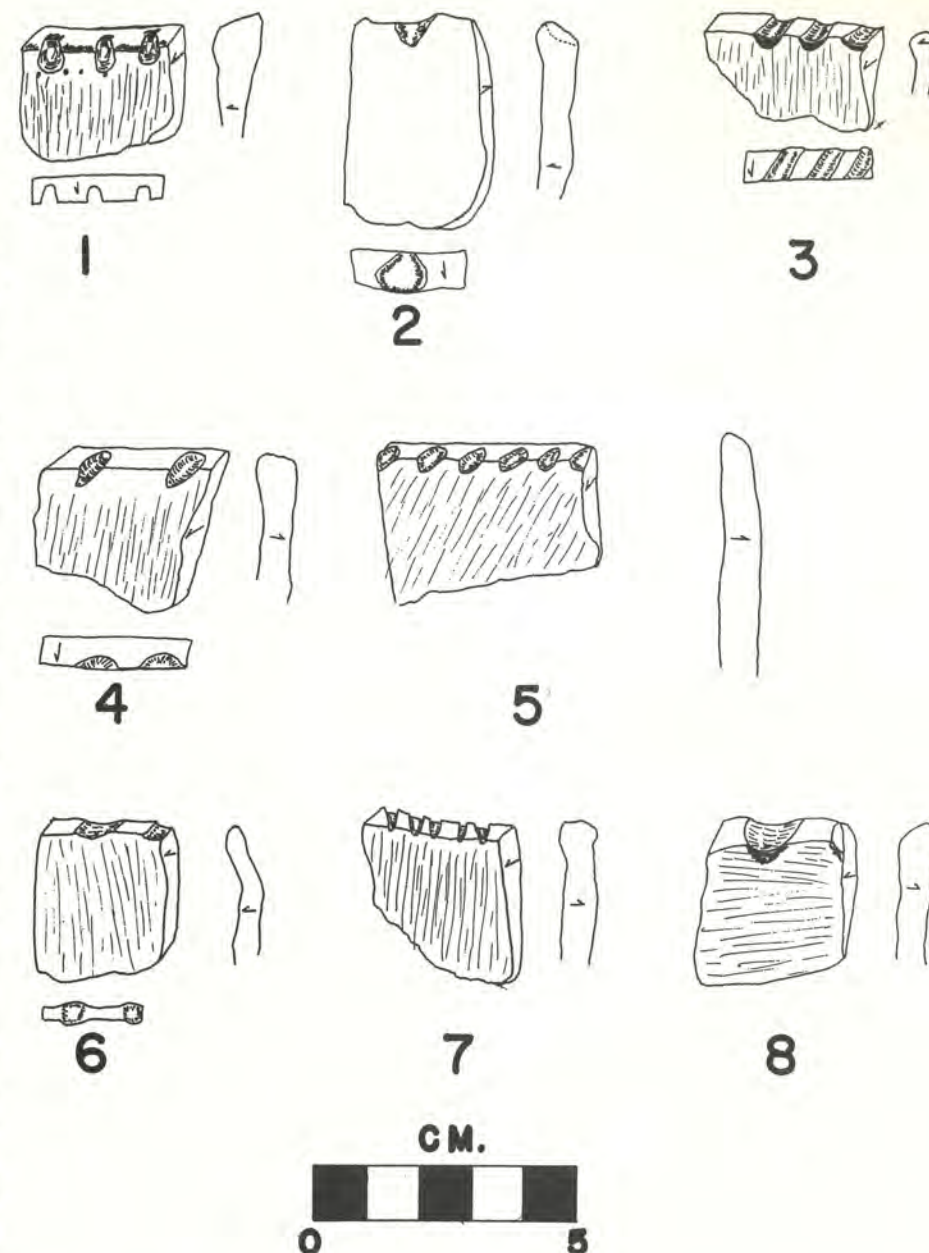
Besides these different types of sites, used for various purposes at seasonal times of the year, we also have to deal with the range of time attributable to the Late Woodland Phase, generally considered 600-900 A.D., but possibly 600-1200 A.D. in this region. A lot of change can take place in 600 years. All of these things make it difficult for the archaeologist to interpret what he finds. We now will attempt an explanation of the "stone forts" and what the people were doing. This interpretation has been developed by archaeologists John Belmont and Frank Rackerby over the past three years and needs additional testing by further excavation.

During the Late Woodland time period (600 to possibly 1200 A.D.) in southern Illinois there were peoples moving into the area from the Mississippi valley; archaeologists call this prehistoric cultural manifestation "Mississippian." The time span for the Mississippian period is generally considered 900-1500 A.D. Specifically in the lower

Plate 3. Pottery rim sherds and profiles, Hog Bluff. 1-4, showing rim treatment; 5-7, showing incised decorations.

Plate 4. Hog Bluff: 1, Pottery rim sherd profiles; 2, unknown artifact of pottery; 3-4, pottery sherds with incised lines for decoration.

FEBRUARY, 1973



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Plate 5. Hog Bluff: 1-8, pottery rim sherds showing rim treatment.

Ohio valley area the most important Mississippian site is the famous Kincaid Mound Group (Dearing 1966:5). The Kincaid site may have been occupied as early as 1100 A.D. and was a walled city by 1400 A.D.

These Mississippians possessed a better way of exploiting the environment; they practiced intensive agricultural techniques to grow corn, beans, squash and other domesticated plants, plus the usual hunting of game and collecting of wild food plants. This intensive agriculture allowed them to form large social groups for longer periods of time than the "Lewis People."

The crux of the theory says that it was the contact of these two differing groups during Late Woodland times that brought on a situation of competition for the same resources. This competition took the form of open hostilities with the Mississippians pushing the "Lewis People" back up into the hills with their final conquest and/or gradual absorption into the Mississippian social framework. The "stone forts" then were part of the defensive system used by the "Lewis People." These sites were a place where they could seek refuge when in danger from attack. At other times they occupied

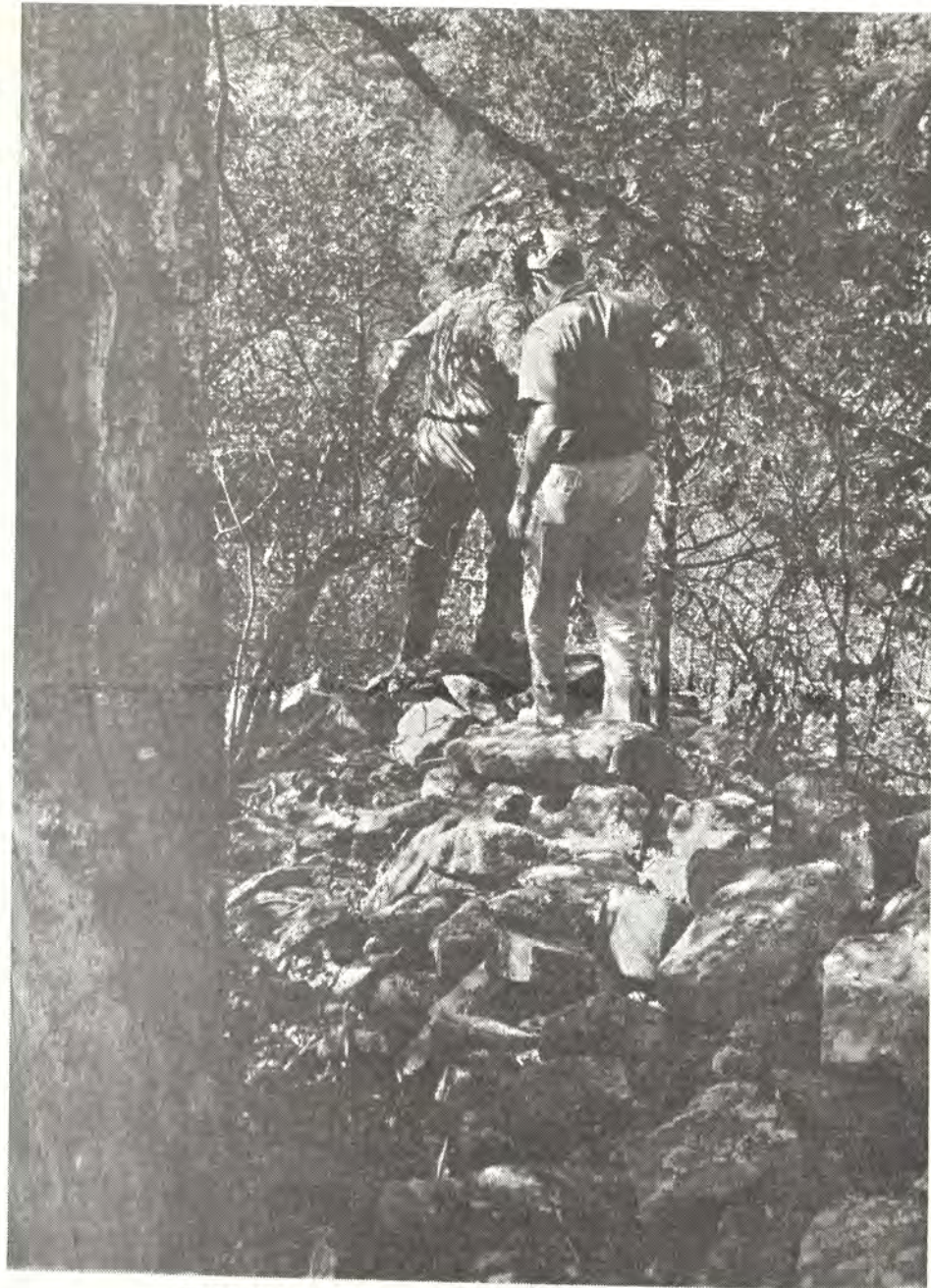
rock shelters and open sites in this upland region.

In order to prove or disprove this theory much time, energy, and money will have to be expended on research and excavation. Mill Stone Bluff (Dearinger 1963) is a site which promises to shed light on this problem because it possesses a stone wall, as well as Late Woodland, and Mississippian artifacts, indicating a point of direct culture contact.

As our long range research program develops in southeast Illinois we hope to begin to obtain new answers to the many questions that exist on the prehistory of southern Illinois.

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CLOSEUP OF stone wall at Indian Kitchen on Lusk Creek.

## Little Businesses and How They Grow:

# The Apple Seller

By G. R. Yohe

THE SHINY SEDAN pulled off the pavement and stopped beside the little roadside fruit stand in southern Illinois. Four well-dressed ladies from Centralia stepped out and gathered around the baskets of red apples. Three of the ladies had been there before and were recognized by the proprietor, who laid his stubby corn cob pipe on the rough pine counter and approached them; the fourth was a stranger to him. It was the stranger who seemed most anxious to make a purchase.

She scrutinized the baskets of Jonathans, then bent down and examined one bushel more closely, removing several apples, turning them and testing them with her thumb. The proprietor tugged at one end of his shaggy moustache as he watched, then engaged in conversation with the other ladies. Finally the would-be purchaser turned to him.

"I suppose there are little ones in the bottom?" she asked. The tartness of her voice surpassed that of the tangy apples.

"Yes mom. Little ones and rotten ones. Al'ays aim to put 'em in the bottom. Only way we can get rid of 'em, you know."

She looked at him in quizzical amazement, but he turned to the other ladies and continued talking about the muskmelons they used to "grow" up near Alma.

The apple customer was persistent.

"I like the looks of these apples," she said, "but I want to see them all before I buy them. I want you to pour them out into another basket."

He shook his head.

"No mom, I couldn't do that. You'll just have to buy 'em that way."

"Now see here," she responded. "I'm going to buy the apples. But you're going to pour them out for me first."

He walked slowly over to the counter, picked up his cob pipe and lit it. Then he brought an empty basket and placed it on the ground and picked up the bushel of

Jonathans she had selected. There was deliberation, even hesitation in his movements. Then he put the apples down again, straightened up, took his pipe from his mouth and stroked his unruly moustache.

"Nope. Can't do it. I druther lose the sale, lady. Somebody else'll buy 'em, anyhow."

The other ladies were smiling at each other and enjoying the scene. They knew the temper of the proprietor and the quality of his wares.

The customer stamped her foot.

"You're going to pour those apples out for me!" she insisted.

The proprietor shook his head slowly, looking seriously, mournfully at her. Then he sighed and stooped over the basket of apples. He clasped it between strong forearms, holding his hands as a chute to guide the apples into the empty container and to cushion their fall. Gradually he raised the basket, and slowly the apples tumbled out, the "facers" first, then the lower layers, all flawless in shape, uniform in size, clean and free from marring spots, and even of more beautiful red coloration than the facers themselves. They had come from the sun-blessed, open treetop, and they were the picture of perfection. The proprietor placed the last ruddy beauty on the heaped-up basket and straightened up, no trace of a smile showing on his face. His countenance betrayed no emotion, unless it might be a faint trace of a perplexed appearance. The customer was triumphant.

"Good! I'm buying them. But I thought you said there were little ones and rotten one in the bottom?"

"Can't understand it, lady," he said soberly. "Just can't figger it out. There should'a been." He carried the apples to the car and pocketed the money, still shaking his head and mumbling "should'a been! should'a been!"

As the car disappeared around the curve toward Salem, the proprietor chuckled softly and reached into his pocket for his little cloth tobacco bag.





## OLD TIME Recipes

By Mrs. Laura H. Holman

### RHUBARB ROLY POLY

For your spring tonic this year, forego sulphur and molasses for this easier to take recipe.

- |                          |                                     |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 2 cups flour, sifted     | ¾ cup sweet milk                    |
| 2 teaspoon baking soda   | 2 cups rhubarb, cut in small pieces |
| 1 teaspoon salt          | 1 cup sugar                         |
| 2 tablespoon sugar       | Butter                              |
| 4 tablespoons shortening |                                     |

Sift flour, baking powder, salt and 2 tablespoons sugar together. Cut shortening. Add milk to make a soft dough.

Knead on slightly-floured board and roll ⅛-inch thick.

Spread with rhubarb, dot generously with butter, sprinkle with the sugar and roll like a jelly roll.

Bake in a moderate oven 350° F. 30 to 40 minutes and serve with cream or hard sauce.

### HARD SAUCE

- |                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| ½ teaspoon salt           | 4 tablespoons sugar      |
| 1 cup confectioners sugar | 1 tablespoon heavy cream |
| 1 teaspoon vanilla        |                          |

Cream butter thoroughly, add sugar and cream together until fluffy. Add cream and vanilla and beat well.

### ELDERBERRY BLOSSOM TEA

Pick the blossoms off the elderberries and pour water over them to wash off the dust, then lay them apart on clean cloth or waxed paper and let them get completely dry, then put in a paper bag or box. To make the tea, put a little bunch of blossoms in a small pan and boil a few minutes, then strain and sweeten to suit your taste.

Elderberry tea was used by pioneers to relieve colds.

### PLAIN GINGERBREAD

Mix three pounds of flour with four ounces of moist sugar, half an ounce of powdered ginger, and one pound and a quarter of warm treacle. Melt half a pound of fresh butter in it, put it to the flour and make it a paste. Then from it into nuts or cakes, or bake it in one cake.

*Alternate method:* Mix six pounds of flour with two ounces of caraway seed, two ounces of ground ginger, two ounces of candied orange peel, the same of candied lemon peel cut in pieces, a little salt, and six ounces of moist sugar. Melt one pound of fresh butter in about a half a pint of milk, pour it by degrees into four pounds of treacle, stir it well together and add it a little at a time to the flour. Mix it thoroughly, make it into a paste, roll it out rather thin, and cut into cakes with the top of a dredger or wine glass. Pour on floured tins and bake them in rather a brisk oven.

### EXCELLENT SUBSTITUTE FOR CANDLES

Procure meadow-rushes, such as they tie the hop shoots to the pole with. Cut them when they have attained their full substance, but are still green. The rush, at this age, consists of a body of pith, with a green skin on it. Cut off both ends of the rush, and leave the prime part, which, on an average, may be about a foot and a half long. Then take off all the green skin except for about a fifth part of the way around the pith. Thus it is a piece of pith all but the little strip of skin in one part all the way up, which is necessary to hold the pith together.

The rushes being thus prepared, the grease is melted, and put in a melted state, into a container longer than the rushes. The rushes are put into the grease and soaked sufficiently, then taken out and laid in a bit of bark, taken from a young tree so as not to be too large. This bark is fixed up against the wall by a couple of straps put round it and there it hangs for the purpose of holding the rushes.

The rushes are carried about in the hand; but to sit by, to work by, or to go to bed by, they are fixed in stands made for the purpose, some of which are high to stand on the ground, and some low, to stand on a table.

These stands have an iron part something like a pair of pliers to hold the rush in, and the rush is shifted forward from time to time as it burns down to the thing that holds it.

These rushes give a better light than a common small dip candle, and they cost next to nothing, though the labourer may, with them, have as much light as he pleases.

### TO CURE BUTTER

Take two parts of the best common salt, one part of sugar and one part of salt-petre; beat them up and blend the whole together. Take one ounce of this composition, for every sixteen ounces of butter, work it well into the mass, and close it up for use.

Butter cured this way appears of a rich marrowy consistence, and fine colour, and never acquires a brittle hardness, nor tastes of salt. It will likewise keep good three years, only observing that it must stand three weeks or a month before it is used.

### TO REMOVE FLIES FROM A ROOM

Take half a teaspoonful of black pepper, in powder, one teaspoonful of brown sugar, and one tablespoonful of cream. Mix them well together and place them in the room, on a plate where the flies are troublesome, and they will soon disappear.

### TO PREPARE HOUSEHOLD BREAD

Mix four ounces of salt, three quarts of water, a pint of yeast, and a peck of second flour, in a trough; when properly fermented, knead and divide it into loaves. Sometimes a portion of rye-meal, rice, flour, or boiled potatoes are mixed with the flour previous to the kneading, the two former serve to bind the bread, the latter cause it to be open and spongy.

### GEORGE AND MARTHA WASHINGTON CAKE

- |                      |                                                                            |
|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 cup butter         | ½ cup fresh lemon and orange peel, cut very fine                           |
| 5 egg whites         | ½ teaspoon nutmeg                                                          |
| 5 egg yolks          | ½ teaspoon cinnamon                                                        |
| 1 cup sugar          | ½ cup rounded measure each of raisins (white), figs and dates, cut up fine |
| 2½ cups flour        |                                                                            |
| 3 tablespoons sherry |                                                                            |
| 3 tablespoons brandy |                                                                            |
| ½ teaspoon mace      |                                                                            |

The night before making the cake, put finely-cut lemon and orange peel to soak in 3 tablespoons sherry.

Cream butter until creamy and soft. Beat whites of eggs, not too stiff, and work into softened butter, one tablespoon at a time.

Add 1 cup sugar, beaten egg yolks and flour. Add fruit. At least, add brandy, spices and sherry with soaked lemon and orange peel.

Bake at 275 F. to 300 F. until done. Test with a cake tester or a toothpick. When well done, the dough will not stick to the toothpicks.

### DANDELION LETTUCE

Pick dandelion leaves, wash clean and cut up fine. Add a little salt, cooking oil and vinegar to suit taste. Bacon grease can be used instead of cooking oil. Prepare as you do for ordinary lettuce.

Never use any greens or blossoms from where there has been spraying done for weeds or insects.

### SPRING JELLY

Gather enough sheepshire to fill a large kettle. Wash in cold water, drain, place in kettle and cover with water. Let simmer 10 minutes.

Put through a strainer or a cloth bag. Measure 3 level cups of juice, add one tablespoon lemon juice, 1 package of Pel Jel, and bring to a rolling boil.

Add 4 level cups of sugar, stir until it dissolves, and let boil for 2 minutes. Remove from fire, skim, pour into sterilized glasses, and top with paraffin while hot.

### RABBIT SALAD

- |                           |                              |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| Rabbit                    | 2 tablespoons lemon juice    |
| Celery tops               | 1 teaspoon salt              |
| ¼ teaspoon pepper         | ½ teaspoon pepper            |
| 1 teaspoon salt           | ¼ teaspoon poultry seasoning |
| 1½ cup celery, diced      | Lettuce leaves               |
| ½ cup sweet pickle, diced | Eggs, hard-boiled            |
| ½ cup mayonnaise          |                              |

Cover rabbit pieces with boiling water in stew pan with celery tops, 1 teaspoon salt, ¼ teaspoon pepper. Cover and let simmer one hour (two hours for mature rabbit), or until tender. Drain and cool. Remove meat from bones and dice.

Combine diced rabbit meat, celery and pickle. Mix with next five ingredients. Chill thoroughly and serve on crisp lettuce leaves with a garnish of hard-boiled eggs. Serves 6.

# UNUSUAL!

Laura H. Holman's

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Prairie Wake Robin

*Trillium recurvatum*. Wake-robin, also called Prairie Trillium. Family Liliaceae, a large family well-known for its many ornamental species under cultivation. Two common food plants in this group are the onion and the asparagus.

Perennial herb, rhizome horizontal, elongate; stem erect, 12-14 inches or more high, bearing single whorl of 3 leaves at apex; leaf short-petioled, flaring, elliptic to ovate or nearly rotund,

apex acute or short-acuminate, light green, mottled with shades of dark green and purple; flower solitary, terminal; sepals strongly reflexed, clasping stem, lanceolate, to 1 inch long, deep green; petals 3, stiffly erect, partially enclosing stamens, to 1-5 inches long, ovate, narrowed to base and apex; stamens 6, pistil 1, with 3 spreading stigmas, ovary 3-parted; fruit a many-seeded berry, spherical, dark red. Blooms March-April, in rich, moist woodlands, common throughout state.

# wake robin

By Miriam Wysong Meyer

**P**ERCHED HIGH among the bluffs overlooking the Illinois River, one of spring's first wildflowers basks in the weak March sunlight. The Snow Trillium (*T. nivale*), tiniest of all the trilliums and the earliest bloomer, spreads wide its stark white, three-petalled blossom, a startling sign of spring, in the bleak, late winter landscape. Because it grows in high, inaccessible places among limestone cliffs and on sloping, wooded hillsides, the beauty of the small plant usually goes unnoticed and unappreciated since it is the unusual hiker who manages to locate this rare trillium. However, trilliums thrive in Illinois soil with nine species, out of approximately twenty-five native to North America, found within the state's borders.

The trillium is a handsome spring bloomer of the moist, eastern woodlands and western mountains. As the name, from the Latin, tres-three, implies, the leaves and flower parts come in three's or multiples of three.

During the first days of spring, the thick, horizontal rootstock gives rise to a single, erect, pale, green-tinged-with-purple, stem topped with a whirl of three, broadly ovate, sharp-pointed leaves. Although a member of the lily family, the trillium leaf does not show the characteristic parallel veins, having

instead, a pattern of net-veination. Sitting neatly in the center of the leaf whirl, is the single flower which may be sessile (without a flower stem), or raised slightly up or nodding on a short stalk.

Flower color varies from a deep maroon-purple to pink, green and pure white but all species exhibit the same pattern of three green sepals, three petals, six stamens, three stigmas and a three or six-parted berry. Most grow about one foot high, flower and set seed during the spring and disappear for another season as spring glides into summer.

In addition to having the smallest trillium, Illinois can boast of having the largest. Appropriately named *Trillium grandiflorum*, the large flowering trillium blooms in late April and May, transforming the forest floor with its huge, glistening, star-like blossoms. Each flower may reach five inches in diameter with the broad, white petals wide-spread and curving down at the tips, the blossom slightly raised above the deep green collar of flaring leaves. As the flower matures, the petals change to delicate pink, occasionally causing some observers to think a new species has been discovered. This species is highly valued for wild flower gardens, not only for its natural beauty but also

because it tends to show great variation within the species.

Often plants occur with spectacular flowers of four, five, six or even up to twelve, petals, each flower with the usual three leaves, or with any number of whirled leaves. A much prized variation is a form with narrow green stripes on the waxen white petals. Although found only in the upper third of Illinois, and then often sparingly, the large flowering trillium occurs in great numbers throughout the eastern deciduous forest, and may cover acre upon acre with dazzling bloom.

The most common and probably the best known of the Illinois trilliums is the Prairie Wake Robin, (*T. recurvatum*). This slightly austere trillium is found in every county in the state and while not flamboyant like the large flowering trillium, it has a certain dignified beauty of its own. Standing about a foot high, it blooms in mid-April, displaying a small, deep-maroon flower of three pointed, upright petals. Perhaps the true beauty of the plant lies in its leaves which are broad and flowing and usually deeply mottled with dark greens and purples. Latin name of the plant, *recurvatum*, refers to the narrow green sepals, tightly recurved or reflexed, and clasping the stem beneath the petals.

Trilliums, as a group, are popular

with wild flower gardeners. They are long-lived perennials which are easily cultivated and propagated. They prefer a rich, moist woodland soil and the heavy summer shade of a mixed deciduous and coniferous forest. However, in the natural state, they may also be discovered growing in evergreen woodland, along open roadsides, in thickets and ravines on wooded slopes. Some species do well on neutral soil but most prefer a slightly acid one.

Trilliums may be transplanted at any time if carefully done, with a large ball of soil taken with the roots. However, moving the plants after they die back, in late summer or fall, is best. The tuberous roots are easy to handle and should be planted two to six or seven inches deep, depending upon their size. Trillium like company and look best when planted in masses and naturalized with other woodland flowers and ferns.

Propagation is by division of the tubers or by seed, which should be sown as soon as it ripens. Choose a sandy spot, rich in leaf mold, and after planting, keep the area moist throughout the summer and cover with leaf mulch the first winter. Seedlings will appear the following spring and the new plants generally start blooming two years later.



On Nature's Trail

# over-wintering birds

with  
Joyce Marshall Brukoff



**E**VEN THOUGH MOST people associate Spring with the return of the robin, few of them are aware that this common bird may not always be returning from the sunny south. If one searches diligently, robins may be seen every month of the year. This includes December and January, although the smallest number are to be seen at that time.

That first spring robin may well have been wintering in a forest preserve or an orchard. His move into a more populated area may be just a brief pause before taking off for a point further north, to his real summer home. Most robins nest to the north of Chicago, although of course many of them stay for the summer. So when we see that early spring redbreast, we may be seeing a passing migrant, a resident or a summer nester.

The robin is a pretty hardy specimen, the largest of the thrush family. Renowned for his song, the robin has a pleasant habit of continuing his trill during a rainstorm or into the evening hours. The specimen most seen in Illinois is the Eastern Robin, one of the five migratory thrushes. He was named for the English robin redbreast by the early settlers.

The well-loved robin was once killed as a game bird in the south, where he gathers in enormous flocks to roost. In 1914 the Federal Migratory Bird Law put a stop to this by forbidding the killing of migratory song birds.

Robins as seen in Illinois are primarily noticed in nest-building activity and the raising of young. As to the nest,

OUTDOOR ILLINOIS



they are not too particular . . . building in all sorts of odd places, but mostly in trees. The nest is usually built solely by the female after which the eggs are incubated for about two weeks.

Both the male and female of this popular species make good parents. As soon as the young are hatched, the male gives his full share of assistance. He trundles back and forth between the nest and food supplies, bringing food to the young and also actually helping to clean the nest. Then he is off for the night to a community roost with other males and young birds of earlier broods.

The food consumed by robins is about 42 per cent animal, according to a booklet put out by the Chicago Natural History Museum, entitled "Common Birds of Chicago". This diet consists mostly of worms and the grass-destroying grubs of the May Beetle.

Actually, there are many birds which may be observed during the "off" months in Illinois. Some of the most common are, of course, the English sparrows, aggressive imports which often drive away the more rare and colorful native birds. Another bird which is considered a nuisance by many is the European starling. It is a good evidence of the misguided intentions that bring species to a land which has not naturally spawned them.

Of greater interest is the winter resident, the slate-colored Junco or Snowbird. This little bird nests to the north and winters as far up as southern Canada. Almost any winter day, flocks of Juncos are busy buzzing about

FEBRUARY, 1973



low bushes or hopping around the ground. Their coloring has been aptly described as leaden skies above and snow below. The head, chest and back are an even slate gray with the chest a dramatic contrast of soft white.

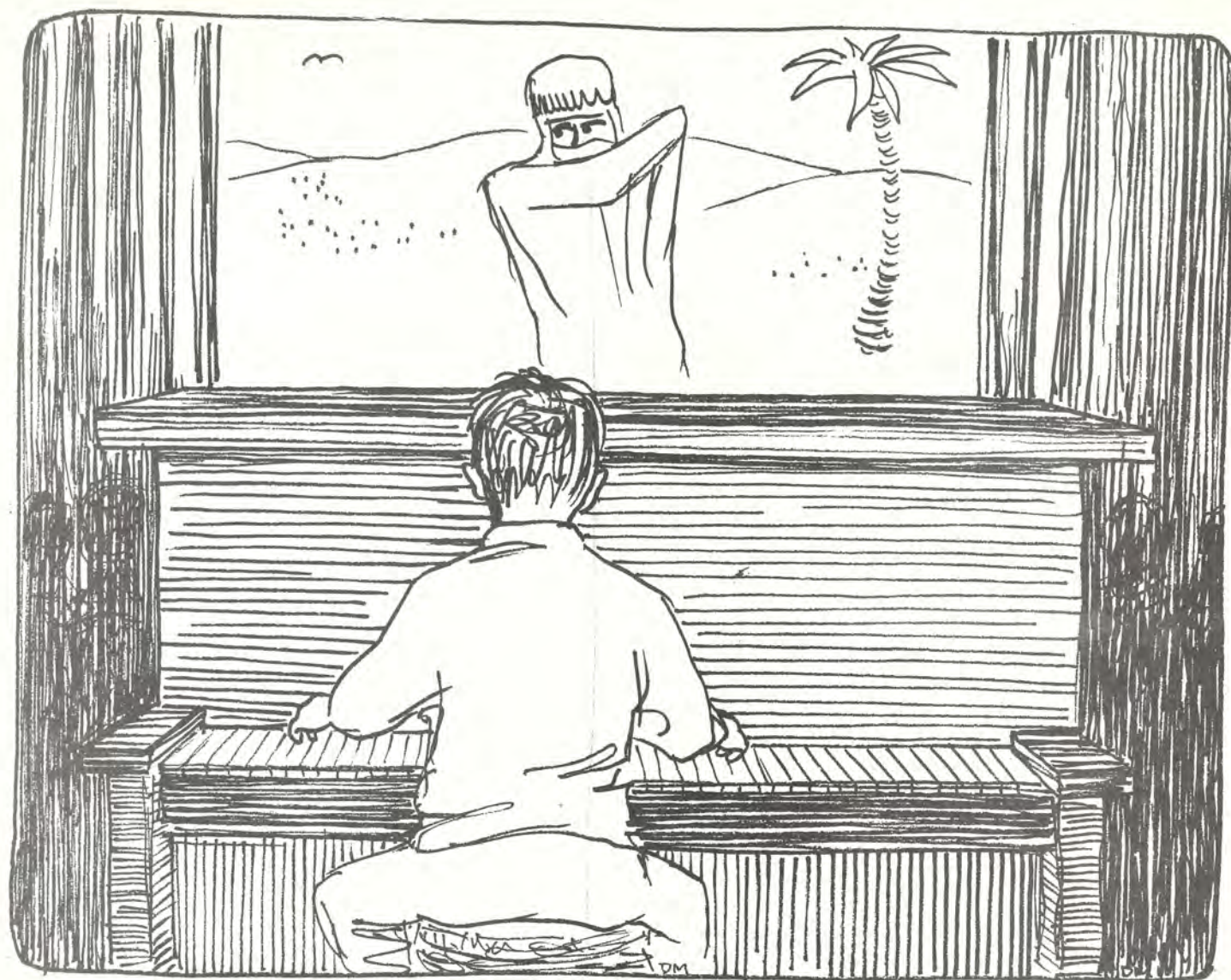
They love weed-filled pastures and brush-grown roadsides, with their diet of 78 per cent vegetable matter—seeds of grasses, sedges, rushes, ragweed, lambs quarters, thistle and wild sunflower. This has made many rank it as one of our most useful native birds.

Other birds seen in winter include the Cardinal, a permanent resident, and the intelligent and obtrusive Blue Jay. The former is more rarely seen, while the Blue Jay makes his presence known in no uncertain terms. The insatiable curiosity, mimicking power and wary sentinel qualities make the Blue Jay a likely candidate for a pretty smart bird. The screaming may be raucous, but the Blue Jay knows just what is going on and displays a bravery which is phenomenal. When its nest is threatened, the Jay will attack anything: Cats, squirrels, snakes — even humans have been known to be struck by the wings, beak or claws of a furious parent.

So, as we see, we really don't have to wait until late spring or summer to observe a great many interesting birds. A walk in winter will be rewarding . . . as will a birdwatch in November, March, or August. Every month has its showcase and these common birds mentioned here are just a few of those which make Illinois their home.



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# When Money Was Scarce

By Raymond E. Lee

**M**ONEY WAS scarce when a boy tried to earn any in the 1920's. Of course, there were roots which a country boy could dig. These roots could be dug, washed, and dried and shipped to Eugene Donzelot and Sons on East Third Street in St. Louis. This firm would buy blackroot, bloodroot, may-apple, poke root, golden seal, and many other kinds of herbs, roots and barks which were plentiful in our woods. They would also buy hides, furs, and

beeswax. But it took a lot of dried roots to make a pound, and ten or fifteen cents a pound was the going price for the most plentiful roots.

However, I actually did dig many sackfuls of roots and ship them in. As I remember, one of my larger shipments netted me about twenty-four dollars, and I was really "in the money" for a while. Some furs brought fair prices, and I became quite adept at trapping muskrats, mink, opossums, and skunks.

I even learned how to skin the skunk without cutting into the scent gland. But raccoons were almost unheard of in southern Illinois in the 1920's. They have since become quite numerous and along with the groundhog are now considered to be pests by the farmers.

Farm crops had small value, and farmers had little know-how in rebuilding depleted soil. Land which would produce 18 bushels of corn per acre was considered pretty good land. Much of

this identical land is now producing fifty to seventy bushels of corn since farming has become more scientific. Horses and mules were used almost exclusively for farming, although I remember a few Hart-Parr and Fordson tractors being around. The steam engine still reigned supreme for threshing and saw-mill work.

Not many farmers would pay over fifty cents per day for a short farm hand. A generous noon meal was usually included, so that the "hired hand" wouldn't lose any time while walking home for his dinner.

For several summers I picked apples — the green transparent kind — for an uncle for fifty cents a day. This uncle paid a grown man a dollar and a quarter for a day's work. He shipped carload lots of apples on the Illinois Central to Chicago. Too often these apples were just a drug on the market and did not pay the freight — and they were carefully graded and hand-picked, too. Really beautiful fruit.

So it is little wonder that I jumped at the chance to make a dollar and a quarter per night playing the piano to accompany the silent movies in the local Tamaroa Pastime Theatre. I had studied piano for several years under Emma Apple, wife of our rural mail carrier, Uncle Billy. Mrs. Apple had studied piano under talented German instructors as a girl, and she was thoroughly trained in the Old Masters and the Classics. Her father, Dr. Halter, was a German doctor who insisted that she become very proficient on the piano-forte.

From Mrs. Apple I had traveled through all ten volumes of Matthew's *Standard Graded Course* for piano-forte, Bach's *Well Tempered Clavichord*, Czerney's *Studies*, and Clementi's *Studies*, Beethoven's *Sonatas*, Chopin's *Minuets* and *Ballades*, the fiery works of Liszt, and many others.

However, I soon learned that most of the more formal and dignified music that I had studied so hard was quite improper to use in accompanying the cues for the silent movies with their gushing, eye-rolling love scenes, the standard chase of the hero as he galloped to capture the villain or to save the fair lady tied to the tracks in front of a rushing train, or the slapstick pie

throwing comedies. Therefore, I was not long in acquiring a more appropriate repertoire consisting of such numbers as "Hearts and Flowers", "Love Blossoms", "The Sheik of Araby", "Sweet Jennie Lee", "Barney Google", and "Ching Chong". I found these could be interspersed with old favorites such as "Let Me Call You Sweetheart," "Turkey in the Straw," "Irish Washerwoman," "Listen to the Mockingbird," and the like.

As I continued in my new role as "theatre pianist", I learned to ad lib very freely, too, often watching the scenes on the screen and deliberately composing music on the spot to meet the mood or action. I have often wondered what "great musical compositions" were "lost to the world" from those single performances. Assuredly, I could never repeat one by conscious effort.



Yet movie patrons frequently asked me the name of some certain number which I had ad-libbed for some particular scene. They informed me that they wanted to buy a copy for their own use as it was "so purty"!

The Pastime Theatre normally had three movies per week — on Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday evenings. The Baptists would not permit shows on Sunday or on Wednesday (prayer meeting night). The standard admission price was 15c for children and 25c for adults, and popcorn was sold during periods while the reels were being changed and rewound.

The old weather-beaten piano stood near the exit door up front and between reels there was usually a rush by the younger movie goers for this exit into the dark of I.O. Corr's Gen. Mdse.

hitching racks and posts for various reasons of nature. The younger ones generally returned smelling strongly of tobacco, and the teen-ager pairs, when they returned, slipped back into the theatre much later, after the picture was going again. They were always considerate about closing the door after themselves and moving quietly to seats in the darkest parts of the darkened building. Several of those late returning couples are now staid grandparents who are inclined to rant about the younger folks and their "immoral and sinful" ways of conduct. In fact, some of them are now Baptist deacons and deaconesses, very discreet, who never enter the taverns by the front door, but who regularly use the back tavern door.

Usually I rode in to town on Sparkplug, a sensitive and fine-blooded yellow-haired saddle and buggy horse. I would tie him in one of the hitching shelters without removing the saddle. Regularly I did remove the bridle, loosen the belly-band straps underneath the saddle, and tie the horse with a light hitching rope. I always carried along a couple of ears of corn and placed these in the feed box for the horse. I couldn't bear the thought of leaving the horse tied for so long without anything to eat. He deserved a reward for his patient service.

Sometimes I rode into town on Old Vee, a frisky rascal, or a roan work plug named Dick. Dick was not too sure-footed, especially if the road was glazed with ice, or if the roads had been made muddy and slippery with rain.

One night after the movie, I was riding Dick home when he slipped and fell and threw me completely over his head as he went down. Fortunately my feet did not tangle and catch in the stirrups, and aside from being plastered with mud and bruised and shaken up, I was basically unhurt. But I was rather dazed and confused for a few minutes and could not seem to get back up on my feet.

Dick managed to scramble back up on all fours, and he trotted some hundred yards toward home. Then he stopped, turned abruptly around, and trotted back to where I was still lying in the mud. Dick then started nuzzling me and nickering softly. By then I was suf-

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ficiently recovered to get on my feet and remount.

Few horses would have had the intelligence to return to me as did Dick, but would have left their heavy burden lying in the pitch darkness and galloped home. I'll always hope that Dick has plenty of good green grass and cool sweet spring water as he gallops about in that Valhalla where all good horses go. He merited the best!

On pitch dark nights I regularly gave whichever horse I was riding "free rein," as they were more able to find the best spots along the muddy, chug-holed road and were consequently more sure footed that way. Old Vee was always in the biggest hurry to get back home, and he was sometimes so frisky that he was difficult to mount. One night he was charging down the road pellmell and hell bent for home. We had gotten perhaps a mile out of town when he stopped so abruptly that I almost sailed over his head. But I held on somehow and tried to make him go forward. However, all he would do was to snort, rear up, and plunge and try to race back toward town, an unbelievable action for Vee.

It was a dark cloudy night. I had no light, and I couldn't see my hand in front of me. Finally, in desperation, I dismounted, clutched the reins and lead rope firmly in my hands, slipped one hand up on his head and talked softly to Old Vee till he quieted down a bit. Then I started walking and leading him past the spot where he had become so terrified. It was not an easy task to control him when it was so dark that I just had to guess where the road was. After perhaps a couple of hundred yards, Old Vee began to quit shuddering and shaking, and I was able to remount and continue on toward home. I guess we had gone a little over a half a mile when I heard the most unearthly, soul chilling scream I've ever heard before or since, quite near to where Old Vee had experienced his terrible scare! I'll never know what that scream was, or what frightened Old Vee. But later on, during that same January, following a deep snow, two hunters declared they had found a large panther's tracks along Reece's Creek within a mile of our trouble spot. Guess I'll always wonder.

The movie stars which I accompanied upon that dingy old upright grand in the Pastime Theatre were among the best of their time. Tom Mix, Hoot Gibson, Clara Bow, Harold Lloyd, and their many charming voiceless contemporaries flitted and danced over the silent screen. At a time before the "talkies", these performers filled a great void and had their followers, just as such passing fancies as our Elvis Presleys and the Beatles of today have had their moments of adulation, too. Many of the "silent greats" passed quickly into oblivion when the sound track proved them to have poor recording voices. But they had their "little day in the sun" before returning to forgotten dust.

All told, I played for the Pastime Theatre for three years, summer and winter, the weather fair or foul. Regularly every winter I frosted my feet in riding the three miles to and from the theatre. I do not recall missing a single performance in that old building.

My last year, I asked Miss Mable, who managed the show, if I could have a raise. She admitted that I probably should have one, but she said it was hard to make ends meet, as it was. In

view of my threatening to quit, she reluctantly upped my pay twenty-five cents per night, giving me the immense sum of a dollar and a half for some three hours of continuous "hammering away" on the old Baldwin. Thus was virtue and diligence rewarded and musical artistry made manifest to those seeking cultural relaxation in our sometimes kindly but generally intolerant little village of Tamaroa in the roaring 1920's.



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# Letters . . .

Dear Sir,

Very little of our native environment remains in Illinois. Most of this undisturbed environment is to be found in a relatively narrow ribbon of woodlands and oxbow lakes along the rivers and streams. It is along these waterways that many of our native flora and fauna live.

Growing upon some of the dry hill-sides and terraces are several species of our native prairie grasses like big blue-stem and Indian grass. Animals such as deer and beaver find the river and adjacent bottom land an ideal habitat. Wild

orchids and Indian paint brush still grow on some of the steep wooded bluffs. Birds like the great horned owl and red-tailed hawk need large areas of big timber in which to nest, and many such stands of timber grow on the rough land bordering streams.

We find it difficult to place an economic value on a red-tailed hawk, a flying squirrel, a wild orchid, a native stand of big bluestem, or a blue-breasted darter. We do have the power to destroy most, and this we are doing mostly in the name of progress.

To build reservoirs or suburban communities in flood plains is to destroy most of what little remains of our Illinois natural areas. Many species of flora and

fauna are too few in number, and have too little suitable habitat left. For us to destroy this last remaining habitat in the name of progress might well be all that is needed to push some more species "over the hill" to extinction.

Around reservoirs, young trees are often planted nearby to produce future forests which are to replace those lost by flooding. Will the species requiring mature forest habitat still be alive when the trees become mature forests a hundred years from now?

In our state legislature, there has been, and will be more, legislation introduced which would create an Illinois Natural Rivers Preserve. This legislation needs the support of all the people of Illinois.

Sincerely yours,  
James O. Smith  
Homer, Ill.

Dear Sir:

I think the "What and Where" picture in the March issue of O.I. is the old flour and grain mill in Thompsonville, Illinois, about 1900-1916.

Paul E. Aiken  
Chicago, Ill.

Wrong.

Dear Editor,

Of course I can identify the What and Where picture! It's the old (former) south mill at Vergennes, likely taken in the early 1900's. I used to live about a block from this then very busy place, and rode down the driveway in a red coaster wagon, when there was no wagon traffic.

The Williams (no relation) family owned it, I believe, and later it was operated by the late Murry Bastien, father of Robert Bastien of DuQuoin, now a judge in Perry County.

Your picture brought "a tear to me eye", but a smile to my heart. Thanks for the journey into the happy past.

Sincerely,  
Naoma Williams  
"The Dulcimer Lady"  
Vergennes, Ill.

Mrs. Williams, should the phrase confuse you, is a noted player of the dulcimer and singer of old songs. And namer of What and Where pictures.

Dear Sir,

My family enjoys your magazine (O.I.) very much. I hope to see some more articles on ghost towns or early settlements and their history. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
David L. Compton, Jr.  
Belleville, Ill.

Dear Editor:

Enclosed is my subscription for O.I. I notice that if I enter a gift subscription I get 3.00 off the newsstand price. That surprised me since I didn't think they allowed it on the newsstands. Since you are located in the deep-mine coal area. I always thought you were sort of an Underground magazine.

OUTDOOR ILLINOIS

Please send the gift subscription to my in-laws whose address appears below (Tuscon, Ariz.) I have been waiting for years to get even with them and this is my chance.

James D. Bruner  
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There is no way you can disturb our equilibrium on this day. The sunlight is streaming through the south windows of the old depot, a few fleecy white clouds drift across a deep blue sky, forsythia, redbud, saucer magnolia, peach, and shad-bush are blooming visibly from our perch . . . and Florida is ever so slowly sinking into the sea. We know it to be so since you are obviously bidding for a passport.

We will take it under advisement. Send us a letter — by way of your in-laws — when the water gets up to your ears.

Dear Sirs:

March 1973 issue of *Outdoor Illinois* arrived yesterday — and it's still March! I am glad that you finally caught up with the issues.

That isn't the reason I'm writing, though. For some reason I missed the January and February issues. I shouldn't complain because I did get a free subscription for identifying that covered bridge picture several months ago. Come to think of it I haven't paid for my subscriptions for a couple of years, either, because my mother gave them to me as a birthday present. The only issues I ever paid for are the ones I picked up while visiting O.I. last May.

Please send me copies of the January and February issues of *Outdoor Illinois* and let me know if there is a charge for this service.

Sincerely yours,  
Monty Powell  
Peoria, Illinois

Old "Three-Card Monty."  
We wondered what ever happened to you. It looks like you have done lucked out again. They ain't no charge for delivering issues after the fact.  
—S.I.C.A.M.

Dear Sirs:

Last week my prayers were finally answered and after many weeks without

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ARTHUR E. RITTER

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**Peotone:** Rathje Mill. See a landmark built by millwrights from Holland in 1872, for the purpose of grinding wheat and rye into flour.

**Petersburg:** Ann Rutledge grave, Oakland Cemetery, 1 mile S. on Oakland Ave.

**Petersburg:** Court House. Lincoln documents display, second floor, 9 to 5 daily except Sat. and Sun. Use east door.

**Petersburg:** Edgar Lee Masters Home, 8th and Jackson. Open daily 1-5 p.m. except Mon., Memorial Day thru Labor Day. Grave in Oakland Cemetery, 1 mi. S. on Oakland Ave. Advance notice for group tours.

**Petersburg:** Lincoln's New Salem State Park. 23 authentically furnished buildings, a reconstructed village where Abraham Lincoln lived six years.

**Petersburg:** New Salem Carriage Museum, Rt. 97, ¼ mi. S. of New Salem State Park. 125 horse-drawn coaches, carriages and vehicles dating back to Lincoln's time. Harness Shop. 100 year old Covered Bridge. Barnyard Zoo with farm animals and their young. Open May 1-Nov. 1; 9-6 daily; 9-8 Sun.; weekends during April. (Annual Land of Lincoln Pioneer Crafts Festival, Sept. 23-24). Conducted tours daily before 11:00 a.m. Mon. thru Fri. during May, September and October for groups of 15 to 50; two weeks' advance notice.

**Petersburg:** Riverboat Talisman—replica of the Steamboat Talisman—Hourly excursions 10 a.m.-6 p.m. from the landing at the old mill site. Boat steams two and one-half miles upriver through a beautiful woodland. Trip is narrated with anecdotes and historical accounts of the locale. Schedule after Labor Day—weekends; 10 to 6 p.m. Charters welcome and group rates are available.

**Prairie du Rocher:** Fort de Chartres State Park. Tours Wed. thru Sun. 9:30 to 4:30, close at 5:00. Tours of 40 to 50 people. (45 to 60 min.) Call 618-284-7230 one week in advance. Wed. thru Sun. Cannon firing demonstration scheduled each Sat. and Sun. at 1:00 p.m. weather permitting.

**Princeton:** Bureau County Historical Museum, 109 Park Ave. W. Open Thurs., Sat. and Sun. 1 to 5; other days by appointment.

**Quincy:** Antique Car Museum. Open Memorial Day thru Labor Day. All America City Park, Front & Cedar.

**Quincy:** Historical Society Bldg. 425 S. 12th. Restored home of former Gov. John Wood, Quincy's founder. Open 10-12 and 2-5 Tues.-Fri., 2-5 Sat.-Sun. Closed Monday.

**Quincy:** Quincy Art Center, 1515 Jersey St. Monthly traveling art exhibits and lectures. Open 2 to 5 Tues. thru Sun. Closed on Monday and all legal holidays.

**Quincy:** Quincy College. Four-year coeducational liberal arts college under direction of Franciscan Fathers. Founded in 1860. Campus tours on request during school year and summer months, 9 to 3:30, Monday thru Friday.

**Rockford:** Time Museum, on the premises of Henrici's Motor Inn, 7801 E. State St. One of the finest collections of timekeeping devices in the world. Hundreds of pieces on display: sundials, water clocks, fire clocks, Chinese Pi, Quipi, and clocks of all kinds and periods. Photographs show the progress of watchmaking from the early 16th century to the present. 12 noon-9 p.m. Closed Mon. Adm. Adults \$1.00, children 50¢, special rates for groups.

**Rockford:** Tinker Swiss Cottage, 411 Kent St. Twenty rooms, original furnishings. Hours 2-5 Wed., Thurs., Sat., Sun. Other times by appointment. Closed holidays.

**Rockford:** Sinnissippi Sunken Gardens and Greenhouse. Mum show during the months of Nov., Poinsettias at Christmas and Easter Lillies in the Spring. Always some type of flower in bloom. Bring cameras! Open 9 a.m.-4 p.m. No admission fee.

**Rockford:** The Children's Farm, 5200 Safford Rd. in Quarry Hill Park. Delight to city children. 8 acre farm, complete with duck pond, farm animals and farm buildings. Many of the farm animals are young and children can go into the pens to pet them. A 20 minute ride in a horse drawn wagon around the park area. Open everyday from Memorial Day thru Labor Day.

**Rock Island:** Augustana College, co-educational liberal arts college, founded 1860. Situated on 100-acre campus. New facilities include John Deere Planetarium and Fryxell Geology Museum. Tours by appointment. Phone 309-794-7341.

**Rock Island:** Browning Museum at Rock Island Arsenal contains an outstanding collection of small arms weapons and objects portraying the history of Rock Island Arsenal. Court of Patriots. Open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wed. thru Sun. Guided historical tours provided groups traveling by bus.

**Rock Island:** Hauberg Civic Center, 1300 - 24th St. & 14th Ave. Home of John and Susanne Demkmann Hauberg now the Hauberg Civic Center. See the Men's Rose and Garden Club Rose Garden in bloom.

**Rock Island:** Hauberg Indian Museum. Tours by appointment from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Wed., Thurs., Fri., Sat. and Sun. Number per groups, 30. No age limit.

**Rock Island:** International Harvester, Farmall Works. 500 - 42nd Street. 9:00 & 1:00 Mon.-Fri. Age limit: 12 years. Tours arranged thru Bill Mason. Tel. 788-8471.

**Rock Island:** J. I. Case Company, 625 - 3rd Ave. Age limit 14 years. Tours arranged through Joe Bushur. Phone 794-9440 Mon.-Fri. 8:00-2:00.

**Rock Island:** Long View Park Greenhouse and Conservatory. 17th St. & 18th Ave. 9:00-3:30 Mon.-Fri. Special Spring & Fall shows.

**Rockton:** Stephen Mack Home 7 Museum, Macktown Forest Preserve, S. of Rockton on State Rt. 2 Rockton Twp. Historical Society. Built 1839, among first 2-story clapboard houses in area. Furnished in style of period. Hours 2-4:30 Wed. and Sun. during summer. Tours at other times arranged with Mrs. W. W. Bigelow, 203 W. Union. Adm. Chg.

**Rockton:** Whitman Trading Post of 1846 era. Open on Sun. & Wed. 1:30 to 4 p.m. from June 14 to Oct. 21. Appt. for groups & other days call or write Mrs. Bessie Lotz, 412 W. Franklin St., Rockton 61072, Tel. 624-2101. Admission charged.

**Rosamond:** Outstanding statue of Abraham Lincoln in Rosamond Grove Cemetery.

**Springfield:** Lincoln Depot Museum is the site of the Great Western Railroad Station of 1861 where Abraham Lincoln delivered the finest of his spontaneous addresses, his farewell speech to the people of Springfield. The Great Western Railroad, successor to the Northern Cross, was the first railroad in Illinois and whose charter was obtained with the aid of Abraham Lincoln, while a State Legislator. On April 23, 1965, one hundred and four years from the date Lincoln left for the presidency, the depot was reopened as a private museum and restored as nearly as possible to its appearance in the 19th Century.

**Springfield:** Lincoln-Herdon Building, Law Offices Federal Court—Post Office, as of 1843-1852, Sixth at Adams across from Old State Capitol. Authentically restored building that holds Mr. Lincoln's two law offices occupied between 1842-1851. The only place to see where he earned his living. Illustrated slide explanation of the men, the building, the times. A museum showing old letters, documents, journals, newspapers, discovered under the attic floor during restoration. Some of these fascinating pieces go back to 1829. Special group rates.

**Springfield:** Lincoln Memorial Garden & Nature Center. A woodland Garden designed by Jens Jensen. Five miles of nature trails. Field trips, hills are covered with trees of Illinois. See redbud, dogwood, plum and native woodland flower. Open all year—sun-up to sunset. Gifts at the Split Rail Shop in the Nature Center Bldg. Open Mon.-Sat. 10-4. Sun. 1-6. Appointments for group tours or special meetings. Write 2301 E. Lake Shore Drive 62707.



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the enjoyable company of Outdoor Illinois, the March issue finally arrived. When I first looked and saw the March 1973 issue, I thought you had found a new, ingenious way to catch up since the last issue I received was dated December of 1972. However, after looking on page four and seeing last month's picture of Old Baldy, I decided that you must have published a February issue and hopefully a January issue.

However, neither of these are to be found in my collection of past copies of Outdoor Illinois, which is faithfully kept up to date. I could blame someone in the U.S. postal service who recognized such a fine magazine for their disappearance, but my secretary's husband works for them so I had better find another excuse.

The second excuse that came to mind is that you failed to mail them to me or they were swept out with the trash by S.I.C.A.M. However, after considering this alternative, I immediately discarded it since I am sure a fine organization as yours would not make such a mistake.

The third alternative is that I received them and threw them out. However, after

searching my mind and back copies, I am sure that I would not have been so foolish as to throw away such a cherished item.

I would therefore humbly beseech you to dispatch at your earliest convenience a copy of the January and February issues. If my tale of woe has not sufficiently touched your heart, please send me a statement for any charges that may be owing you for your kind attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,  
Paul L. Stone  
State's Attorney  
Moultrie County  
Sullivan, Illinois

Gentlemen,

I have not received the January, February or March issues of Outdoor Illinois. I hope nothing drastic has happened there.

Will be laid up awhile and would love to have these issues to peruse while recovering. Can't think of a nicer way.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Evelyn N. Dalenberg  
South Holland, Ill.

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