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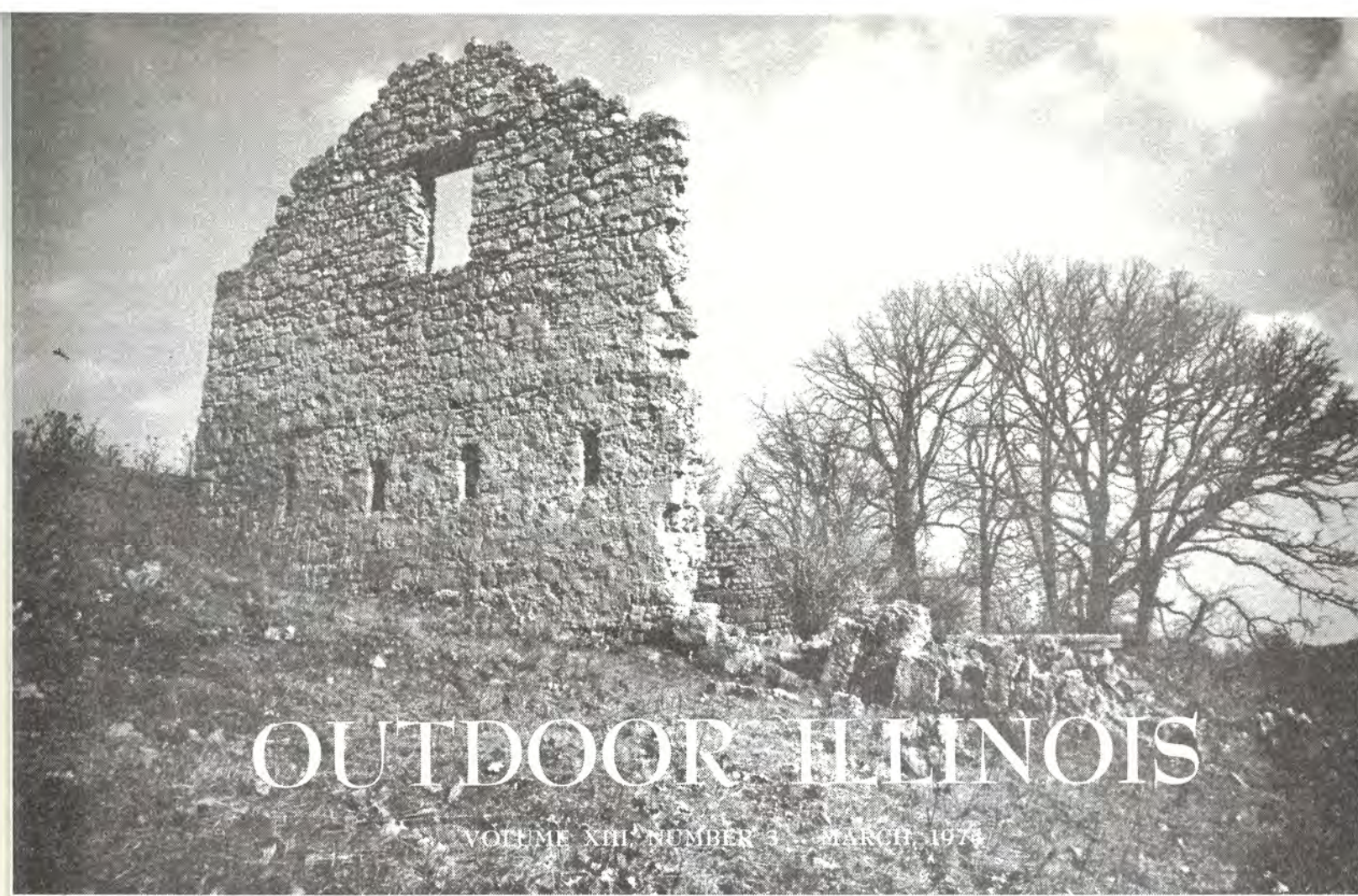


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The Magazine of Illinois

OUTDOOR ILLINOIS

320 SOUTH MAIN STREET, BENTON, ILLINOIS 62812



OUTDOOR ILLINOIS

VOLUME XIII, NUMBER 3, MARCH, 1974

OLD RUIN NEAR WILLIAMS' CROSSING, Jo Daviess County, W. C. Millhouse

- DAN MALKOVICH
Publisher
- LOWELL A. DEARINGER
Associate Editor
- WILLIAM H. FARLEY
Editorial Adviser
- EVELYN PAGE
Circulation Manager
- MARK MINOR
Advertising Manager
- LARRY STOWERS
Production Manager

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COVER PICTURE

THE MAIN SPILLWAY at Rend Lake overflows, signalling an end to winter and the beginning of a long season of water recreation at the 18,500-acre lake in Franklin and Jefferson Counties. Outdoor Illinois Photograph.

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WHAT and WHERE

CAN YOU IDENTIFY this simple yet classic old church in central Illinois? A hint? Wayne Bridges, of Delavan, took the picture and it is within 25 miles of his back porch. Sorry, we can't say which direction.



Last Month's Picture

THE POSTVILLE COURT HOUSE at Lincoln was the subject of last month's Where and When. Although it looks old, it is not the original, which was dismantled by Henry Ford and restored on the village green at Greenfield Village in Dearborn, Michigan. (See Letters).

OUTDOOR ILLINOIS



A Second Look

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

Travel Illinois

WITH THE earliest spring in years, and the most perfectly mild February in memory, we're looking forward to traveling the highways and the byways of Illinois in search of the history, the lore, the unusual places to see and enjoy in this exceedingly tall state of ours.

At this writing, very early in March, the wood hyacinth and the jonquil and the forsythia and the magnolia soulangea and spring beauty—too name a few—are in bloom. The creeks are brim full, carrying away the excess of winter. It is a great time to be alive.

We visited recently in Golconda to keep track of the progress of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Foster on the Riverview Mansion Hotel. We chided them somewhat for the terribly low prices—\$5 for a room with bath—in the old Gilbert mansion they have been bringing back to life with hard work and perseverance. But don't let the low price fool you, it's a great bargain.

If you're looking for a weekend to please, the area offers the most striking scenery in Illinois—marvelous natural areas, long hill vistas, the unique Fluorspar Museum at nearby Rosiclare, good eating at Kaylor's Cafe in Cave-in-Rock as well as the spectacular river scenery along that part of the Ohio River.

If you're a camper, try Dogwood Hollow at Karber's Ridge. If cottage life suits you better, we can recommend Janet Connor's cottages advertised in the classified ads in this issue. Readers who have vacationed there have spoken highly of the setting and the accommodations.

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But we don't restrict you to southern Illinois in your spring travels. Galena's still a few weeks further back, the air is a bit brisker, but the scenery in that lovely Jo Daviess County town is still superb, the hosteling can be taken at magnificent Nineteenth Century hotels and homes, and dining is a treat at several area restaurants.

In between is that vast, complex, really interesting place called Illinois. A thousand experiences, each one different—and the people are invariably friendly, helpful.

We say again, this year try Illinois. You'll enjoy it.



Cairo Beckons

WE HAVE been in the Cairo area in the past weeks and can report that the town which has had so much hard luck is well on its way to solving the problems which have plagued it in the past.

As you'll see in coming issues, the historic old river town at the confluence of the mighty Mississippi and Ohio has numerous attractions. The A.B. Safford Public Library and Magnolia Manor, featured in past issues of Outdoor Illinois, are but two of many striking homes and public structures in Cairo.

Cairo Point-Fort Defiance State Park, overlooking the confluence, is expected to be joined in the future by a small boat harbor on its north boundary, according to current plans of the Illinois Department of Conservation. Other improvements are in the wind, and it is a delight to welcome Cairo back. It was a long session.

For those who have been timid about traveling that way in the past, we say don't overlook Cairo as a place to visit in your coming weekend, or vacation, in Illinois. You will be surprised by the friendly reception you'll receive, a tradition in Cairo of long standing, and you will most certainly enjoy touring the neighborhoods, which feature outstanding river-town architecture.

The Illinois Historic Landmarks Survey has marked no less than 38 structures and sites of importance in the town.

Maybe we'll see you there.



Shawneetown on Move

THE GLORY that was Shawneetown is gone. Its era passed many years ago, when it was in the forefront in the bustling activities of a new territory and a new state of Illinois.

It boasted the first bank in Illinois, a private bank operated by John Marshall. It was the major port of entry for the nearly endless stream of immigrants from the eastern states and abroad who came to the new territory seeking a new start, unfettered by the restrictions and compromises of older societies.

Shawneetown saw the attempt to bring slavery to Illinois, saw its nearby United States Salines become the major industry of the territory and the young state, was

an attracter of entrepreneurs and idealists, statesmen and politicians and scoundrels. Before its tide ebbed, it was one of the early business centers in Illinois and the source of both the venture capital and venture spirit which was the natural result of that time and place on the frontier.

Many of the buildings which helped the visitor visualize the regional eminence Shawneetown achieved have been razed, lost through fire or neglect, or even moved to New Shawneetown following the mass exodus after the 1937 flood. Yet some of the more imposing structures escaped the ravages of time, and even today testify to the wealth and good taste evidenced by some in that earlier time.

Among them, two stand out.

The first bank in Illinois, the John Marshall house, recently saw a ground-breaking which signified the beginning of a restoration of the building stimulated by the Gallatin County Historical Society and aided and abetted by the Illinois Bankers Association. The first shovel of earth was turned by Mrs. Jess Ann Logsdon and Mrs. Opal Dietz of the Gallatin County Historical Society. Guest speaker Bruce Burnett, president of C. P. Burnett and Sons Bankers, of Eldorado, pointed out that the Illinois Bankers Association had contributed a substantial amount of money, time and talent as well as its personal endorsement of the project to restore the first bank, which was begun by John Marshall in 1816.

"As the first bank in Illinois, it is a building that should be perserved for future generations and a great number of Illinois banks have already recognized this and have given their support to the program by making contributions to it", Burnett added.

The historical society has about \$36,000 on hand to begin the project. By finding ways to reduce costs, the total project is now expected to take \$60,000 (the original estimate was \$100,000) so the society needs to raise an additional \$24,000 to complete the restoration.

A second building, the imposing Greek Revival specimen erected in 1838, is slated for refurbishing by the Illinois Department of Conservation. One of the really fine examples of the classic Greek style in the midwest, the building was allowed to deteriorate in past years and, at one point, was in danger of losing one wall due to neglect in maintenance of the roof. Apparently, the really first-rate architectural building is going to get a thorough renovation in the near future, according to Anthony Dean, state conservation director.

Those two restoration projects are expected to stimulate additional restorations by private sources, after the pattern which has developed in Galena during recent years.

Hopefully, it will be so.

Palzo Project to Get Underway

AT A TIME when the drive to recycle has been slowed somewhat by the opportunity the "energy" crisis offers to continue business at the old stand, it is a welcome note to hear the Shawnee National Forest's Palzo

reclamation project is at the brink of realizing its great potential.

The operational phase of the Palzo strip-mined land reclamation project in Williamson County, using treated municipal waste, is expected to get underway this summer.

The project is located south of the village of Crab Orchard, about midway between Marion and Harrisburg, on 200 acres of strip-mined land the forest service purchased several years ago.

Strip mining was completed about 1959 by a now-dissolved independent coal company. It was acquired in 1967 by the forest service as part of the Shawnee National Forest to be used as a heavy equipment training site for corpsmen at the Golconda Civilian Conservation Center and as a demonstration mine reclamation project.

The site was discovered to be among the worst acid-producing stripped land in Illinois and reclamation became the primary objective.

The use of treated waste, the end-product of municipal sewage treatment, was suggested as a means of solving two environmental problems in 1970 by the Illinois Department of Conservation, which was instrumental in bringing together the U.S. Forest Service and the Metropolitan Sanitary District of Greater Chicago to discuss a joint project. The need to reclaim thousands of acres of acid-producing stripped land which was contributing to the environmental "death" of the Saline River might be greatly aided by use of the nutrient rich waste material being produced in ever-increasing volumes at sewage treatment plants.

In the fall of 1970, a cautious 1/4-acre trial effort was begun. The object was to see if a "soil" could be created out of the rocky, sulphurous shale waste that had not been hospitable even to weeds in the twelve years since the land had been disturbed by strip mining.

To the delight of everyone concerned with the project, the grass seed planted on the three treated plots began to flourish in direct proportion to the rates of treated waste application.

The more significant and critical test of success or failure of the trial was the effect on water quality.

Analysis of the runoff water indicated a significant reduction in acidity as well as a reduction in heavy metals in the run-off water.

In addition, a concern existed for excess amounts of nitrate in the run-off water. The results of the trial plot indicated no excess nitrate, it apparently being tied up chemically in the soil and in the grasses growing on the surface.

So the tests were successful, and met the hoped-for results. This spring the first rail tank cars of treated municipal waste will be shipped to the Palzo area, which has been readied for treatment by grading to make it possible to apply the material, seed the area and stop erosion.

The long-range objective is to demonstrate the use of treated sewage material in acid mined area reclamation to make the land again useful. The Palzo Project is the most carefully watched and researched strip mine reclamation area in Illinois. Its potential for demonstrable im-

provement of the environment of acid mined lands has been shown. Its application on a large scale in privately-owned strip mine land, such as Peabody Coal Company's adjacent huge holding—part of the Will Scarlett mine, should be the next item on the timetable.

The Bard

FROM TIME to time in past years, we have clipped some of the wisdom The Bard of the Bon Pas conveys to readers of the *Albion Journal-Register* on a weekly basis, on the assumption that what Dean Bunting's Edwards County readers are strong enough to withstand each week, the rest of Illinois should be strong enough to take occasionally.

The Bard, better known in the old English Settlement as A.M. Walton, examined the question, "Do Animals Think?" in a recent column. We think you will enjoy it:

"One morning, many years ago, I awoke to find my cow herd in the garden. They had just discovered a pile of apples I had bought to pit for the winter but hadn't covered yet. I accused my children of leaving the gate open on one of their frequent trips to the creek. The gate was kept closed by an iron ring looped over the post and the first picket in the gate. They denied everything vigorously.

The next morning the cows were in the yard and had just finished cleaning up the apples. This time I knew the kids were not to blame because I had checked the gate myself.

I turned the cows out and watched. Blackie, a newly acquired cow who had taken charge of the herd, immediately marched purposefully around the chicken house back to the garden gate, the other girls followed obidently. She stuck her nose against the iron ring, flipped it upward and marched in. Poor Blackie, she out-smarted herself. I figured I couldn't afford such an intellectual cow, Ph.D. on the place and sold her for beef. I found out later that her former owner had sold her because he couldn't keep her in the pasture.

We once had a mule who would do much the same thing. The bar locks dad invented to circumvent Ned would do credit to Rube Goldberg. But Ned knew that if he kept pegging the lock with his teeth, eventually something would give way and the gate would open. Ned would balk when he got tired but not in the ordinary fashion. He would lie down at full length and wouldn't get up. Our hired hand came to the house one day to tell dad that Ned was awful sick. He had taken the harness off him and rode the other mule. Dad allowed as how Ned would be along presently. Just then, he came around the corner on a dead run, swinging his head from side to side and braying derisively. I don't know whether horses can "horse laugh", but that mule sure could.

A friend once told me that he saw a covey of quail "teasing" a cat. They were circling her gingerly in ever-narrowing circles. At the slightest movement from the cat, they would fly away but would return immediately. Were they teasing, or what?

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I once read of a crow who had a fiendish sense of humor. His favorite sport was to sneak under the chairs of visiting ladies taking their ease out of doors and biting them through the gaps in the webbing of the lawn chairs. Then he would fly to the nearest tree and enjoy the resultant clamor with mocking caws.

A neighbor once owned a crow who would pay me a visit every day to play games. I would toss small sticks at him and he would catch them in his beak. He would not chase one which was off target. He seemed to feel that if that was the best I could do—forget it. We also had a game we might have called 'pull the peg.' I would drive a small peg like a match stick into the ground. He would watch gravely, then pull and tug and twist the peg until it came out.

My father used to tell of a horse who was gored badly by a mean bull. His pasture mate took on the responsibility of guarding him while recuperating. Whenever the bull approached she would present her business end to him and drive him away.

We once had a little horse named Billy. Riding him bareback was like riding in a rocking chair. But Billy had only one eye and often shied at imaginary dangers. We were loping along gaily one day when Billy shied. I followed the laws of inertia—in a straight line. By the time I could get up Billy had come back to me with his head down and trembling. If ever a horse apologized, it was Billy.

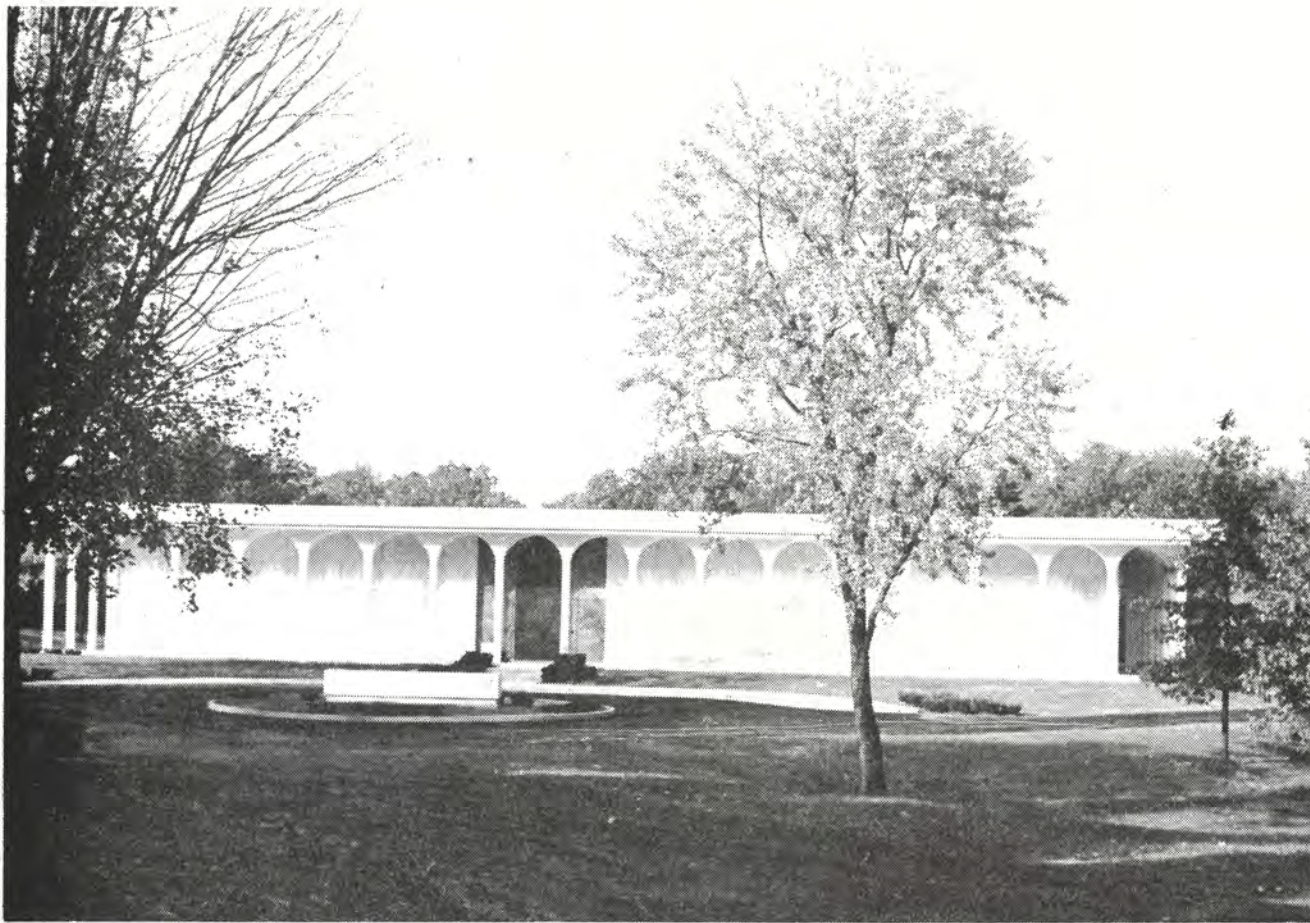
My classic example of animal thinking was a cat we called Spot. Using all the cat language she had, including purring, tail waving, leg rubbing and meowing, she persuaded me to follow her to the barn and up a ladder into the haymow where she had a new family of kittens. When I picked up the kittens she took me back to the smoke house where she curled up on some rags behind a barrel and asked me to deposit her family. I suppose she didn't feel up to getting them down the ladder. At any rate, what is the use of having a servant if you don't use him?"

Lovejoy Home Now Open

AND WHILE on the subject of restoration of historic structures, we had a visit recently with Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Leonard, of Princeton, who were instrumental in the fine renovation work accomplished on the Owen Lovejoy home in Princeton.

Working under a grant from the Department of Conservation, restoration of the structure was accomplished at far less than the cost which had been estimated by the state, if it had done the job.

For those looking for nearby places to replace distant vacations this year, we can recommend Bureau County, Princeton and its Lovejoy Home, and the nearby Hennepin Canal. And at the opposite end of the state, the Shawneetown restorations, the nearby salt springs, and Saline County Conservation Area would make a good parlay.



THE JOHN R. and Eleanor R. Mitchell Museum, recently opened at Mt. Vernon by the Mitchell Foundation of that city.

The Mitchell Art Museum

By Lowell A. Dearing

Art and life ought to be hurriedly remarried and brought to live together. — Hugh Walpole.

AS SOON as the word gets around, the Mitchell Art Museum at Mt. Vernon will be a popular attraction in Illinois. The Museum is considered the most outstanding art museum in Illinois, outside of Chicago and the Krannert Art Museum at the University of Illinois. It can be compared with the best private galleries and small museums in the country.

The Mitchell Museum is intended to accommodate present public interest in the arts, and to encourage the growing appreciation of art on the part of adults and young people, by means of exhibitions, films, lectures, demonstrations and related programs.

The location is at Cedarhurst, the 80-acre Mitchell estate on Richview Road in Mt. Vernon. Visiting hours are as follows:

Monday through Friday — 10 a. m. to 12 m., and 2:00 to 4:30 p. m.

Saturday — 10:00 a. m. to 2:00 p. m.

Sunday — 2:00 p. m. to 4:00 p. m.

Admission is free.

John R. and Eleanor Mitchell long planned for an art museum which should be enjoyed by people in and outside the area.

In 1965 the Mitchells established the John R. and Eleanor R. Mitchell Foundation, a non-profit organization which, among other projects, had and has the responsibility for the development and maintenance of a museum and the surrounding Cedarhurst grounds.

A Museum Staff was set up, headed by Kenneth R. Miller, Executive Vice President.

In the Trust agreement Mr. Mitchell also provided for a group of Adminis-

THE TABLE GARDEN, a 1910 painting by Childe Hassam (1859-1935). Considered one of the finest American impressionists, he studied in Paris. As in this painting, his use of light and color indicates an attempt to adapt French Impressionism to his American heritage.

trative Counselors to serve as volunteer advisors to the Museum staff.

The Museum was opened to the public last November. The building is faced with Georgian marble. Fortuny fabric from Italy was used for the interior wall covering. Virginia Conner Mosely selected the fabric and planned the interior decoration. She also designed a curved reception desk and two chandeliers for the main exhibition room.

In the few weeks since the opening the Museum has presented special shows by Don Ross, West Frankfort artist; water colors by Mary Lou Parker, and Barkless Dogs, an unique study of

CURVED RECEPTION desk at the museum was designed by Virginia Conner Mosely. In lighted cases, a large collection of Dorothy Doughty porcelain birds are on display.





ILEX WOOD AT MAJORICA WITH BLUE PIGS, a 1908 painting by John Singer Sargent (1856-1925). Sargent, born of American parents in Florence, Italy, studied in Italy, France and Germany. Favoring naturalism, he painted what he saw, which some critics then and now consider an artistic sin.



THE CANE OF OLD AGE, by Jorge Leguizomo Podilla. The portrait of an elderly Mexican woman is undated.

expressions of canine pets, painted by Miriam Hanns. Mrs. Parker and Mrs. Hanns are members of the Mt. Vernon Art Guild.

For the major January exhibit the Museum presented the colorful Masters Photographic Collection, provided by the Photographic Art and Science Foundation, Inc., and the Professional Photographers of America. Visitors remarked about the remarkable use of color, lighting and special effects created by the photographers.

Mr. Miller has stated that other traveling shows have been, and will be, booked for visitor interests.

A small gallery is available for one-man shows, lectures and study groups. Provision has been made for movie and slide presentations. Refreshments may be served from an adjacent kitchen.

The Mitchell permanent collections consist of 106 paintings, mostly works of late 19th and early 20th century American artists, such as Thomas Eakins, George Bellows, Mary Cassatt, Robert Henri, George Innes, George Luks, John Singer Sargent and Andrew Wyeth. Included also are paintings by Eleanor Mitchell, herself a talented artist. European artists are represented.

Floor and shelf pieces include statu-

BETWEEN TWO exhibition rooms this 1873 statue of a veiled woman (sculptor unknown) is undoubtedly one of the nine Muses of Greek Mythology. The realistic detail in the flowing garment indicates a Roman adaptation of Greek classicism, much copied by 19th Century sculptors.

ary by Pablo Picasso and others, bronzes by Charles M. Russell, small carvings of stone and wood, also jade and cut glass.

Of special interest is a large collection of porcelain birds, created by Dorothy Doughty and produced in limited editions by the Royal Worcester Company Ltd., England.

The Museum and the nearby Mitchell home, which at one time was featured in *Town and Country Magazine* (not open to the public), naturally dominate the outdoor scene. Beyond these the eye is carried down a slope to a lake, a small statue, and a background of woods, mostly deciduous. The frontal area, extensively planted to cedars, gives the estate its name.

The eastern section of Cedarhurst has been exclusively and permanently reserved as a bird sanctuary. The rest of the woodland, or park, will be developed for future outdoor educational facilities and programs. Nature trails will be a part of this development.

However, "Such projects," so Mr. Miller stated, "are but a dream and a hope. At present we must give top priority to the Museum."

In addition the Museum, John and Eleanor Mitchell aided Mt. Vernon and southern Illinois.

They helped secure for Mt. Vernon a second bank and a radio station (WMIX AM-FM, stereo), both sorely needed in the larger community. Mr. Mitchell led or served on the management teams of both organizations.

The Mitchells established the Mr. and Mrs. John Russell Mitchell Art Gallery on the campus of Southern Illi-

HOMEWARD, by Eleanor R. Mitchell (1903-1968), one of 13 paintings by Mrs. Mitchell in the Foundation collection. This rendition indicates her interest in American Impressionism.

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JEUNE FEMME ALLAITANT SON ENFANT, circa 1908, by Mary Cassatt (1844-1926). Miss Cassatt was one of the first women in history to establish a reputation as an important artist. At one time the French considered her the greatest woman painter. Daughter of a wealthy Philadelphia family, she helped establish in the United States a market for French art. She was totally blind when she died in 1926.

nois University, at Carbondale, in 1961.

Mrs. Mitchell, a graduate of Western Illinois Teachers College in Macomb and the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, also did graduate work at Columbia University in New York City. She inaugurated an art program at Mt. Vernon Township High School, where she taught art, dramatics and physical education.

Mr. Mitchell attended Mt. Vernon schools and the University of Illinois. After graduation he was associated with the National Bank of Commerce of St. Louis, and the brokerage firm of Mark C. Steinberg Company, also of St. Louis.

WOODLAND SCENE, by southern Illinois artist Don Ross, of West Frankfort. A talented artist, sculptor and instructor in fine arts, his work has been subject of a one-man show at the museum.



A LITTLE Madonna (below) overlooks this tranquil scene at the lake on the grounds of the Mitchell Museum.

Returning to Mt. Vernon Mr. Mitchell assumed management of the Mitchell Furniture Company which his parents had started in a small way. He built the volume of business into the largest furniture store in the area. He also opened branches at Harrisburg and Mattoon in Illinois, and in Vincennes, Indiana.

During the southern Illinois oil boom in the late thirties, Mr. Mitchell invested in successful oil producing properties.

Having built a considerable fortune, the Mitchells, to insure that their philanthropic objectives be continued, established the previously mentioned Mitchell Foundation.

The Mitchells enjoyed travel and outdoor activities. During their travels they added to their art collection. Unfortunately, the two did not live to see the Museum, their most cherished project, in service to the community.

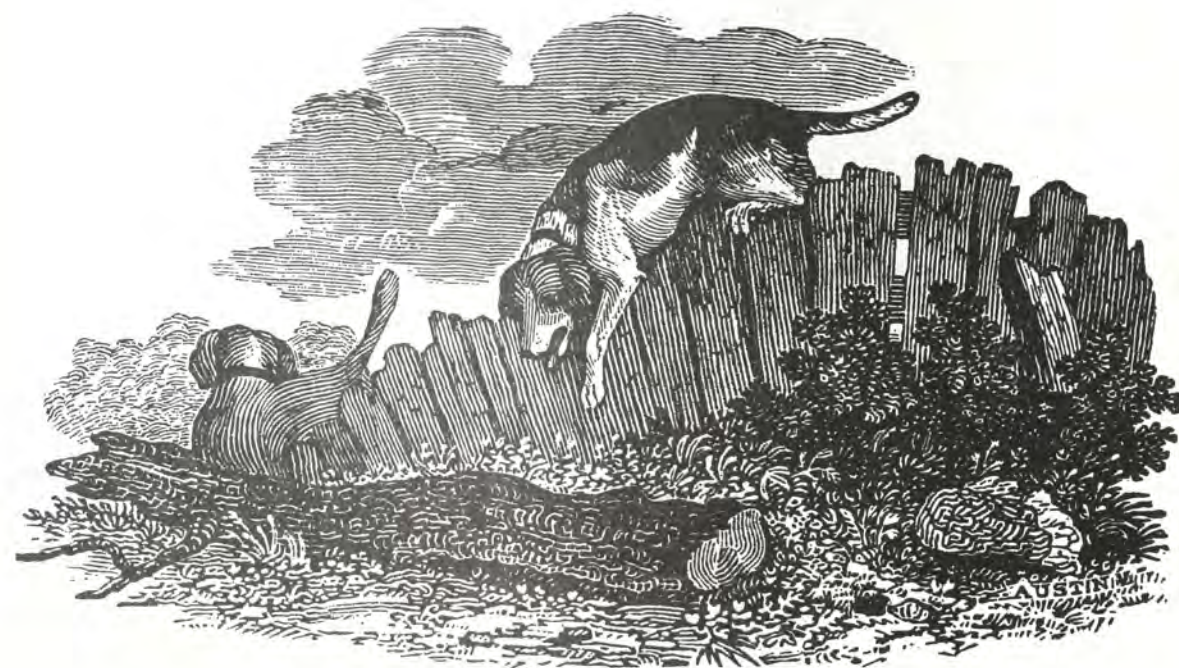
Eleanor Mitchell died April 20, 1968, and John R., September 21, 1971.

Pictures of paintings used with this story are copies of originals in the John R. and Eleanor R. Mitchell Foundation collection.

THE END

MARCH, 1974





Bruno and Rags

By Raymond E. Lee

BRUNO WAS a white cur with a brown ear. I had bought him from my buddy, George Cowley, for a dollar and carried the little cuddly pup all the way home from George's house through the woods, a distance of some two miles. But when I arrived home, Father frowned and said: "Raymond, what did you bring that ugly no-count

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cur dog home for! I ought to punish you for such a trick!"

"But, Father," I said, "Look! He wags his tail so good! And besides, Old Collie is dead. Please let me keep him!"

At that Father smiled and his heart softened a bit and he said we'd try to put up with Bruno a while and try to train him. This we did for about ten

years, until an evil neighbor shot him.

Allowed to roam the woods at will, Bruno became an excellent squirrel dog, and once he treed one of the largest minks I had ever seen in an old hollow apple tree in Grandfather Williams' old neglected "clockie orchard". George Cowley was along with his .22 rifle. We poked the mink out of the hollow tree

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and as it was running, Bruno seized it by the throat. When he put it down it was still kicking a bit, so George put a bullet through its head.

Together George and I skinned the mink, stretched and dried the hide on a home-made board stretcher and sold it to Abraham Fur Co. of St. Louis. They sent back a check for \$28.00. After dividing the money we thought we had a fortune. I bought my first and last boyhood bicycle with ten dollars of that money.

One Sunday afternoon Bruno barked "treed" down in the woods. He stayed treed so long that I trotted down to investigate. To my utter surprise and amazement he had treed a large red fox, the first fox I had ever seen, in a sapling. The fox was resting on some small branches some twenty feet off the ground and was very calmly and smugly looking down upon the agitated Bruno.

Breathlessly I ran home and shouted the news to Father and to my brother, Howard, who happened to be home on a visit. They both laughed at my foolish "fox story" but decided that the dog must have something or he would not remain treed so long and continue to bark so frantically. So seizing a shotgun and a German Luger pistol, they hurried back with me.

Their disbelief turned to astonishment when they saw the fox. (I later read in an encyclopedia how foxes really do climb trees). My brother, Howard, took careful aim and shot the fox with the pistol, but the animal did not fall out of the tree as was expected, so I was delegated to climb up the sapling and pull him loose from the limb where he was wedged. I began climbing and was within four feet of the fox when blood started spurting from the pistol wound and I was thoroughly drenched and almost blinded with this hot blood. We skinned the fox and kept the hide for "evidence" of our unusual adventure. Since that time foxes have so invaded the area of the old homestead that they are nuisances.

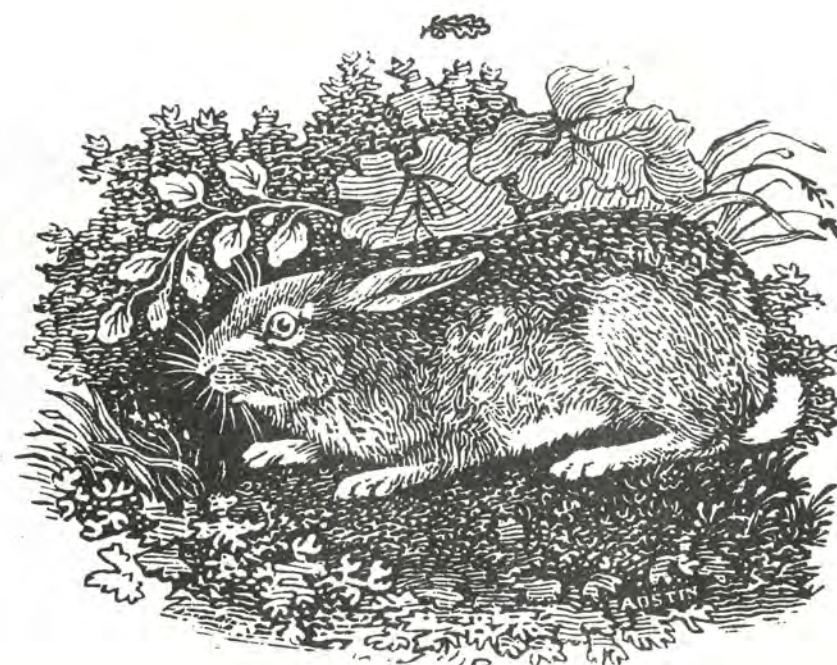
Rags was a bob-tailed, curly-haired part-Airdale dog that Bruno brought home with him from the woods one morning. He stayed with us until he died. In his own unique way, Rags was quite intelligent. One of the most amazing things I ever saw of both dogs was the efficient system they developed for hunting together.

Rabbit hunting was their favorite sport . . . Rags would work himself into a thick brier patch or brush pile and flush out the rabbit while Bruno would lie in wait. When the rabbit rushed out, almost invariably close to where Bruno was crouching, the dog would seize it and kill it before it knew it was caught.

Then both dogs would generously divide the fresh meat together, if they were hungry. They never fought over food, but would crouch down together and eat their fill. Other times the dogs would bring their catch to us, lay it on the back doorstep, and scratch on the door till we came out and properly praised them for their unique hunting ability.

It was on one of their hunting forays that Rags returned home and Bruno didn't. Rags whined to us repeatedly and seemed to be trying to tell us something. So Father and I started out in search of old Bruno. We found our dog stretched out in a woods path he loved to take as he went on his roamings. He was headed toward home, and his tongue was hanging out, but his eyes were glazed in death. He had been shot through the heart with a rifle bullet!

We brought Bruno home and buried him on the top of Rock Hill just west of the house, a favorite spot of his where he had loved to chase and romp and play. We brought up a heavy sandstone rock from the creek to mark his grave. Rags hunted very little after that. But many times we saw him out by Bruno's grave lying beside the sandstone rock, as if he too, were grieving for his buddy dog. Thus, I suppose we must all grieve for those things which we cannot bring back.



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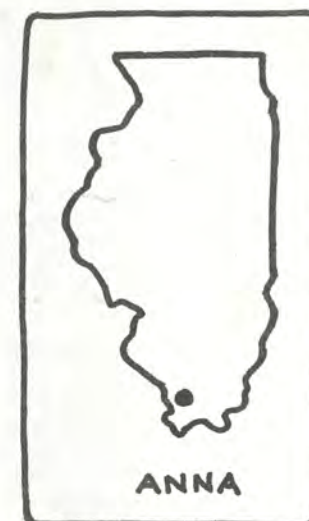
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St. Anne's Episcopal Church

Anna's Elegant Fieldstone Structure

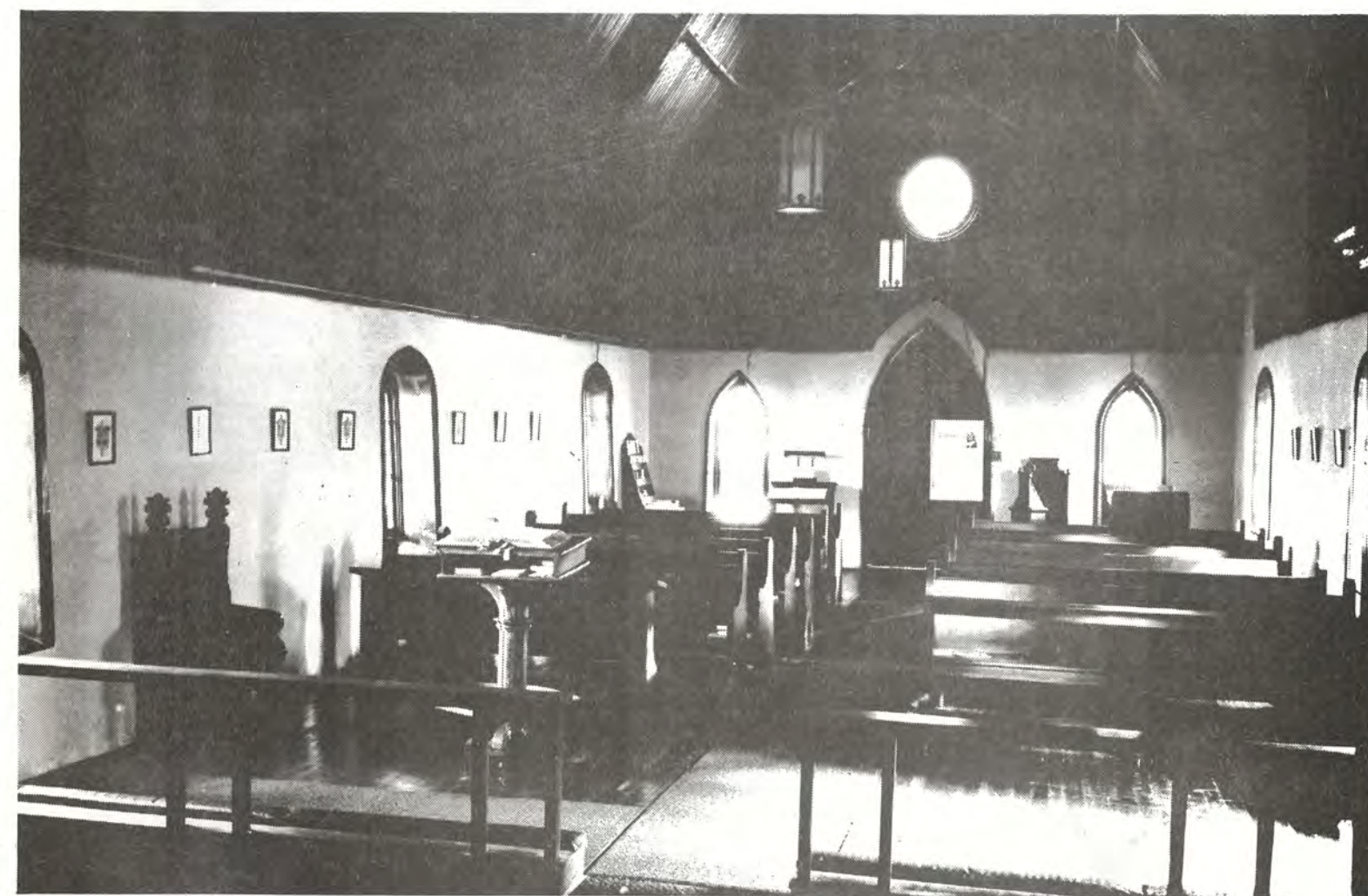
Photographs and Story by
Paul E. Sprague

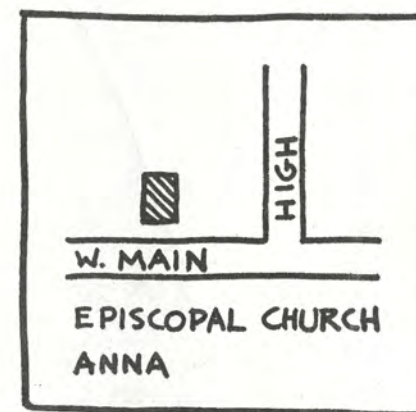


ALTHOUGH THIS diminutive church at Anna in Union County seems stylistically to belong to an earlier era of design, perhaps the 1860's,

FROM SOUTH FRONT, looking north (opposite), and within the auditorium looking south toward entrance, St. Anne's is an exquisite small church.

it is firmly dated 1886 by a cornerstone and mention in a local history. It is a beautifully proportioned structure with walls of fieldstone laid in irregular courses, pointed arches of finely cut stone over the windows, and shingles—the one element that seems clearly to relate the building to the 1880's—in the gables.

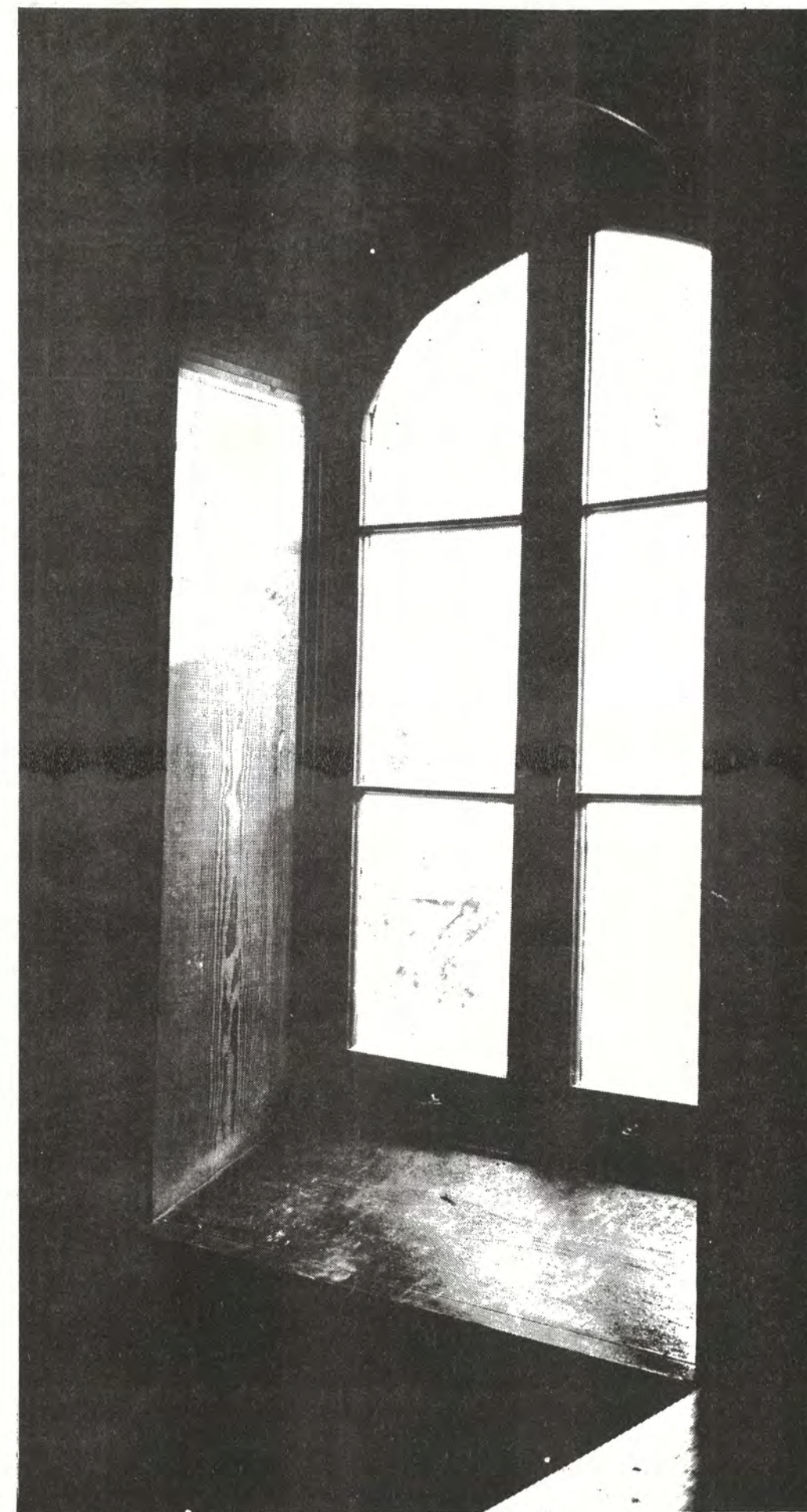




VIEW TOWARD the Chancel from front entrance shows soaring roof, exposed wooden beams.

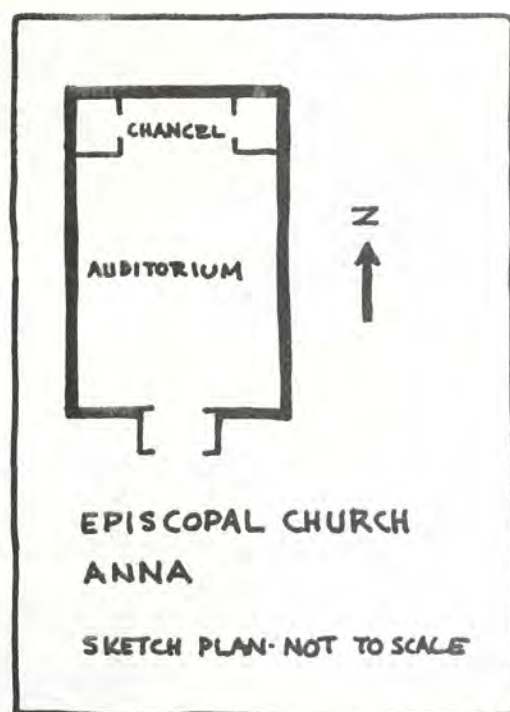
WINDOW DETAIL again points out the clean design and workmanship noted throughout the small church.

FONT (below) with decorative details of the 1870's, although the church was not constructed until the 80's.





NORTH WALL shows detail of fieldstone construction. Anna, in Union County, has long been noted for quarries and early pottery works.



The plan is simplicity itself with a small porch and double doors set into a pointed entrance arch on the one side and a sanctuary framed in another arch at the other. The spacious rectangular auditorium is enclosed by white-painted plaster walls supporting, however tenuously, an open truss roof finished in natural wood. There is about the building a rustic quality, derived from its varied materials, that blends well with its elegant and harmonious composition. Perhaps the most sophisticated element in the church is the

baptismal font, a product no doubt of an urban workshop made probably in the 1870's.

The building is certainly one of the finest small religious edifices in the state and deserves careful preservation because of its architectural and romantic—or nostalgic—qualities. When I visited the church four summers ago it was without a priest and apparently without a caretaker.

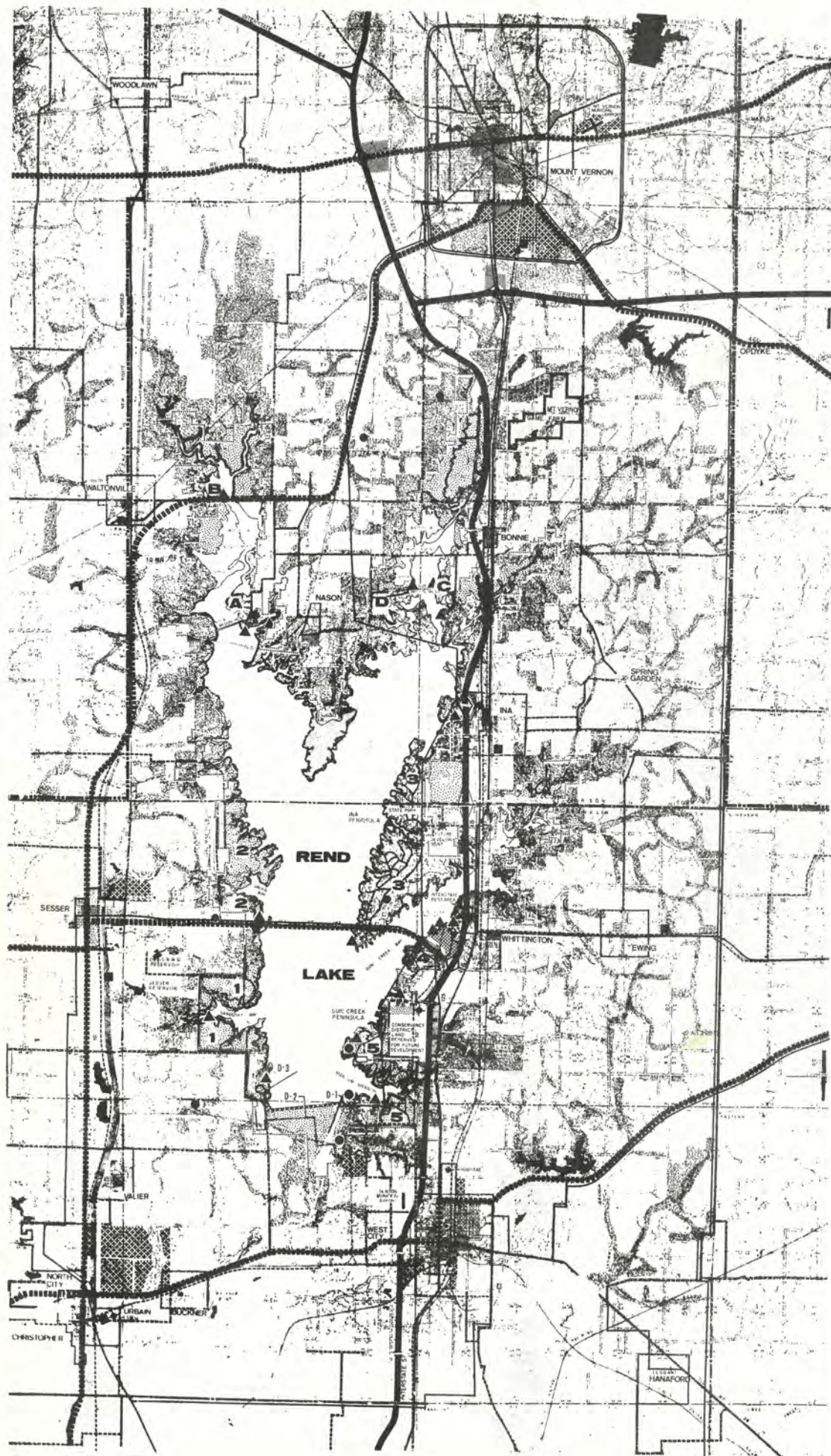
Bibliography: *The Centennial History of Anna*, 1954.



EAST WALL (opposite) showing rough fieldstone used in the building.



MARCH, 1974



REND LAKE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

REND LAKE CONSERVANCY DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

LAND USE PLAN

- FARMLAND
- PERMANENT SINGLE FAMILY HOME
- SUMMER COTTAGE
- RESORT
- COMMERCIAL
- INDUSTRIAL AND/OR MINE
- UTILITY SITE
- WATER TREATMENT PLANT
- BOOSTER PUMP STATION
- GROUND STORAGE TANK AND CAPACITY
- INTERCITY WATER MAIN
- PUBLIC AND SEMI-PUBLIC
- COLLEGE
- GOLF COURSE
- BOATING FACILITY
- AIRPORT
- GREENBELT-PARK-FOREST COVER
- SCENIC OVERLOOK
- CORPS OF ENGINEERS DEVELOPMENT
- STATE DEPT. OF CONSERVATION DEVELOPMENT
- D-1 REFER TO DESIGN MEMORANDUM
- D-2 NO. 2 BY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
- EXISTING AND POTENTIAL SUB-FOUNDATION
- FLOOD AREA - REND LAKE
- INTERSTATE HIGHWAY
- SUPPLEMENTAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM
- STATE HIGHWAY
- COUNTY SECONDARY SYSTEM
- CORPS OF ENGINEERS BOUNDARY
- COUNTY BOUNDARY
- TOWNSHIP BOUNDARY
- CORPORATE BOUNDARY
- MAJOR TRANSMISSION LINE

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OUTDOOR ILLINOIS



EARLY MORNING risers and late afternoon fishermen line up below overflowing dam at Rend Lake. In spring many spectators come to witness the descent of thousands of fish down the spillway.

Rend Lake is Ready

By Lowell A. Dearing

The geographic change that takes place in an area receiving a lake is impressive, but it is the sociological change which is of most importance.

Only those who have lived in a lake area for an extended period of time can understand the traumatic experience people undergo as their homes and land disappear under water, as their entire economy is changed, and as 'strangers' rush in to enjoy the entertainment offered by this new 'promised land.'

Outside money and leadership will make the major investments and make the major profits. Most local people are just not geared to make or operate the major investments.

Chain motels or hotels will do the major building. Those with marine experience in other areas will come in with their knowhow and capital to do the major development. Skilled restaurant personnel from large cities will develop exclusive nightclubs, leaving to the native the hamburger and hot dog trade. — Missouri Conservationist.

MARCH, 1974

LIKE TOPSY, Rend Lake just grew. Back in the 1920's, mining communities in southern Illinois prospered. Population and employment were up. Then came the great depression, with resultant shut-downs of mines and other industries. Stores closed. People moved away. With the business revival just before W.W. II, the mines were mechanized, requiring less labor. The communities remained in the doldrums.

Towns increased their efforts to attract new industries, with some success. But too many prospects lost interest when the question of an adequate water supply came up.

The mean annual precipitation for the area is, in a round figure, 40 inches. Even in the drought years of 1952-53, in the driest, 1953, the precipitation was 27.50 inches. Which is quite enough, if the water could be available when needed.

The water problem is due to a shallow, clay topsoil and an impervious subsoil. Rainfall gets away quickly.

Blame it on our pioneers. They helped create the

Page 23



AS ST. LOUIS fisherman readies his boat for launching along Gun Creek Bay, near 183 causeway, fishermen try their luck in the protected inlet.

situation. Leaving land they had wasted by over-cropping with cotton and tobacco, they followed the same practice when they came to southern Illinois. They slashed the timber and corned the land to death. Organic matter was used up. The buttermilk soil could not hold water, so with a heavy rain, away it went. Buttermilk soil? Sour, with no cream.

For years people talked about exploiting the Big Muddy — the Aux Vases (to a Frenchman, the word meant silt, slime, mire, ooze). As early as 1924, the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers prepared plans for a canal so southern Illinois coal could be transported to the Mississippi, or wherever.

In the 1950's a canal was proposed to link the Ohio with the Mississippi, via the Saline and Big Muddy rivers. Twenty years later a series of hydro-electric dams was recommended. The P.W.A. proposed a series of lakes along the Big Muddy. (Seventy-three lakes for the Big Muddy watershed is the latest suggestion). For a time these suggestions caused much talk — cracker-barrel stuff.

According to the *Benton Evening News*, the real beginning of Rend Lake was a report by the Chicago and Eastern Illinois R. R., entitled *Industrial Potentialities of Southern Illinois*, dated April 15, 1953. One paragraph of this report read:

"For industrial consumers (in southern Illinois) whose requirements could not be satisfied by the city supply there are a number of reservoir possibilities . . . The one possible reservoir of importance involves damming the Big Muddy River. A 13,500 acre lake containing about 40 billion gallons could be created which could supply a daily draft of 90,000,000 gallons derived from a 500 square mile watershed."

This statement stopped the cracker-barrel talk. Concerned men in the several communities got behind the idea of a lake. The next step was taken at a meeting of the Southern Illinois Water Works Association, an organization of civic water plant employees.

The meeting was held at the St. Andrews School, Christopher, March 18, 1953. The theme was "Water."

Three speakers were quoted.

Goffrey Hughes, Southern Illinois Incorporated.

"We are at the mercy of drouth when we could have a tremendous reserve supply of water."

"Contrary to popular misconception, there is no shortage of water in Southern Illinois, but it is not controlled." Dave Scheehy, C&EI R.R.

"Things aren't too bad if we can get anything going through combined effort."

Earl McClendon, Pres. Southern Illinois Water Works Association.

Hughes had arranged a meeting with Gov. Stratton

relative to the water problem, and invited the Association to send a delegation to the conference, which was done.

Later that March, our publisher, Dan Malkovich, then representing the *Benton Evening News*, called a meeting for the purpose of promoting what is now Rend Lake. The meeting was held at the Christopher High School. Some 700 attended.

At this meeting the Rend Lake Association, Inc., was formed. Its purpose was "to advance the welfare of Southern Illinois and to conserve, improve, and develop the natural resources of the Big Muddy Watershed. In particular, it is concerned with the encouragement of agriculture, water conservation, forestry, recreation, industry and any other economic endeavors that will help the individual, business and professional interests of the area."

The Rend Lake story was carried by area newspapers and by individuals — no cracker-barrel talk this time. Association membership soon reached 3,400, at \$1.00 each. Thirty directors were selected, 10 of whom were to be elected each year.

During the fall and winter of 1954-55, the Association campaigned and conducted an election in January, 1955, which resulted in the creation of the Rend Lake Conservancy District, the first of its kind in Illinois.

The total vote was 10,071 to 5,611. In Benton the margin was 3,360 to 133. The District, covering all of Franklin County and six townships (Elk Prairie, Spring Garden, Dodds, McClelland, Shiloh and Mt. Vernon) in Jefferson County, takes in a major portion of the upper Big Muddy watershed.

Located in Franklin and Jefferson counties, adjacent to I-57, Rend Lake is the second largest reservoir in Illinois. The lake covers 18,900 acres, with a shore line of 162 miles at normal stage. The width in the main area varies from one and one-half to four and one-half miles. The maximum length is about 17 miles, and the maximum depth, 35 feet. The life expectancy is more than 100 years.

The lake will provide varied outdoor recreation, such as camping, picnicking, boating (no wake within 200 yards of the shore), swimming, skiing, hunting — ducks, geese and upland game, including deer, also fishing. Bye the bye, 1974 is expected to be the fishermen's year at the lake. And as a hint, but not a promise, some of the bass now weigh five pounds.

For those who prefer something more than the simple life, initial plans have been completed for a commercial resort and a luxury-type convention center. Some of the construction now is under way.

About the only missing facilities associated with a fun complex like Rend Lake are ice skating and ice skiing. Rend Lake is below the "snow line," in a recreational sense. Outdoor seasons are 10 months long — January and February can be unreasonable.

On the southbound lane of I-57, at Gun Creek, the Illinois State Highway Department will place a Rest Park, with a full-time custodian. These Rest Parks provide modern rest rooms, travel information, picnic sites, a dog walk

CAMPERS ARRIVE early to make certain of a choice camping pad in the Sandusky Creek camping area during holiday weekends.



and sanitary disposal and water filter facilities for trailers. The site has a good view of the lake.

The Intercity Water Supply system supplies Rend Lake water to 43 communities in five counties. The pumping station and filtering plant is located at Marcum Bay.

Rend Lake also will provide limited flood control on

the Big Muddy River, and will make possible quality control of downstream water. To assure water purity in the lake, both the Corps of Engineers and research scientists from Southern Illinois University make regular purity tests.

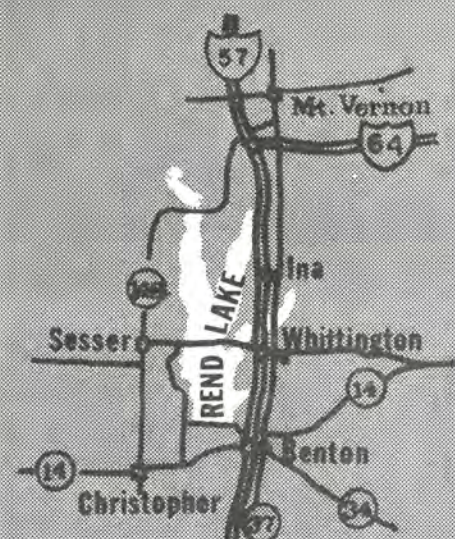
The lake officially was opened in 1972. From May

to December, at the Sandusky area alone, 519,000 day-visitors were reported. In 1973 the count for the entire lake was well over 1,000,000.

In 1976, the year of our national bi-centennial, attendance at the lake is expected to reach 2,500,000 day-visitors.

Specifics

Rend Lake is managed by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Rend Lake Conservancy District, the Ina Park District and the Illinois Department of Conservation. (Division of Wildlife Resources and the Division of Parks and Memorials).



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Rend Lake



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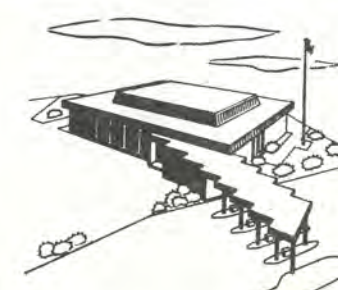
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Of these agencies the Ina Park District will develop an area along both sides of the Ina interchange on I-57. The board hopes for a chain motel.

The Corps of Engineers is developing some 4,000 acres on both sides of the lake specifically for outdoor recreation.

On the west side of the lake, immediately north of the main dam, is an overlook, with maps and information. Also in this area (D3) are a boat ramp, boat docks, a marina and parking space. At this time no recreation facilities are available for the area below the dam.

The Sandusky Area (1) offers exceptional views of the lake, especially by moonlight — provided, of course, no clouds. Here are 200 camp sites, picnic facilities, a swimming beach and two, four-lane boat ramps. Several private camp-grounds and resort stores supplying groceries, bait, pellets, charcoal and wood, bait, tackle and gas, are located along the road adjacent to the area.

Planned for Jackie Bay (2) are boat docks and a marina. Sites for camping groups, such as scouting, eventually will be developed in the space between Jackie Bay and the Division of Wildlife Resources (A). Meanwhile, this area will be developed by the Corps for the improvement of wildlife population and hunting.

On the east side of the lake, adjacent to Ill.-183 at Gun Creek Bay, the Corps of Engineers has provided a swimming beach, boat ramp, picnic area and 100 camp site.

On the Gun Creek peninsula and at Marcum Bay (5) the Corps will develop ramps, a sand beach, parking facilities, a marina and supply, equipment and repair shops for boats.

Fees for public facilities are:

Pads — No charge at the present time.

No charge for use of picnic tables.

Golden Age Passports are one-half normal fee.

Golden Eagle cards are not applicable.

Similar prices will apply at areas managed by the

FISHING BOAT is tied up on west shore in North Sandusky area with good view of three of the many campsites on Rend Lake shore.



Division of Parks and Memorials and the Rend Lake Conservancy District.

According to the Conservancy District the proposed resort and convention complex will compare favorably with McCormick Place, Chicago. This complex is located on the east side of Gun Creek Bay (3 and Pl. 4), and will be developed in three phases.

First on the schedule is an 18-hole, championship golf course (construction now under way). Other plans include a resort-convention hotel with dining rooms and lounges, a commercial motel and restaurant (chain affiliated type), 50 housekeeping cottages with from one to eight rooms, two complete marinas, a filling station and a modern, three-stage sewage treatment plant.

Phase 2: The convention center — 8,500 seats, more marinas, and other service facilities, a resort-type shopping center and sight-seeing cruise boats.

The final phase will include private campgrounds, a mobile home park, executive-type rental cottages, playgrounds for the cottages, a club house at the golf course, tennis courts and pony races.

These projects are not necessarily in order given. Many will be built and financed by private investors.

The Division of Wildlife Resources will administer more than 16,000 acres of land around the lake. The Division of Parks and Memorials manages the nearly 3,000-acre Wayne Fitzgerald State Park along State 183.

The park will have 240 camp sites and five organized camp units, with running water, electrical and sewer hook-ups, laundries and restrooms with showers. A picnic area on the point below Ill.-148 causeway provides a grandstand view of the main part of the lake and of any boating activities.

Other features at the state park include a sailboat harbor, a fishing marina, horseback riding, bicycle paths, playgrounds, nature walks, a cafeteria and a dining hall to accommodate large groups. A 25-mile road system will connect the several areas.

AMUSEMENT AREAS for children are included in campground areas. This one is at Red Bud, South Sandusky.



NUMEROUS BOAT access areas are to be found on the shores of Rend Lake, as this one in Gun Creek Bay.

At the head of the lake two impoundment dams and a 5,000 acre waterfowl refuge will provide quality fishing and hunting (A-B-C-D). Within the refuge area, corn, milo, millet and green forage of winter wheat and ladino clover provide an inviting food and loafing area for migrating waterfowl.

Sub-impoundment areas, partly forested, are flooded during the waterfowl season, after crops are harvested. The food and cover attract deer and lesser upland game. For waterfowl much of the area is shallow, requiring only hip-boots and inflatable decoys.

The wildlife management area extends up the Big Muddy beyond Ill.-148. An access area will be located adjacent to the highway on the south. The Division of Wildlife Resources will use lake acreage east of I-57 for wildlife and upland game. Access areas will be provided.

Rend Lake should attract one of the larger waterfowl populations in Illinois. Hunting is permitted in season outside the refuge area, except within 500 feet of developed recreation construction and access areas. The state park is closed to waterfowl hunting.

The Rend Lake College campus, consisting of 300 acres, adjoins Rend Lake State Park, extending north from the Franklin-Jefferson county line along the nature-walk area of the state park.

In the northwest section of the campus instructors and students are planting some 23,000 trees, mostly native species. There will be a lake. An area will be seeded to native grasses.

MARCH, 1974

These plantations will provide for the study by students and interested visitors of forest, water and prairie ecology, such as our pioneers found when they first came to Illinois.

The Rend Lake community, or that of any new lake, cannot visualize the problems of tomorrow.

The Southern Illinois Recreation Council has pointed out that an increase in visitors to recreation areas results in an increase in littering, vandalism and pollution. The worst offenders are unorganized groups, picnickers, fishermen and hunters. Also, young people, including Boy Scouts, without responsible leadership.

When development is complete nearly 400 efficient men and women, local or imported, will be needed to serve those 2,500,000 visitors expected in 1976.

Workshops are needed to train leaders of adult and youth groups which partake in outdoor activities. With local unemployment over five per-cent in the area, workshops also are needed to train waitresses, clerks and other service employees. Local community colleges could provide some of these workshops.

The *Missouri Conservationist* emphasizes the need for planning and zoning in a recreational area. "Uncontrolled development," a statement read, "can make a mockery of the area's former scenic beauty." And, it might be added, of the rural resident's investment and peace of mind.



FATHER AND SON find easy access to fishing water along shore of Wayne Fitzgerald State Park, along State 183.

Sources were unanimously in agreement that Rend Lake communities are not prepared for the impact of the lake.

Mt. Vernon, Sesser, Benton and West Frankfort have industrial parks. Retail stores, however, seemingly are making no preparation for the coming tourist bonanza. And be it noted that tourist expenditures for 1976 are estimated to be nearly seven million dollars.

This was to be expected. Apathy is a natural reaction after the expectations of rainbow-gold cool and land sales run their course.

Outside the Corps of Engineers boundaries there is no zoning. In rural areas zoning is for the birds, or the towns. A man's home and land is his, to do with as he pleases. The trouble is that a neighbor may be pleased to use his land in a way that will greatly reduce the value of adjoining property.

For the rural resident summer months are more or less leisurely. Eventually, in a recreation area, the summer season, especially on weekends and holidays, brings traffic jams, overflowing campgrounds, and motels, and possible riots.

Right now Rend Lake is a naturalized area. It is kept clean and attractive. The wildlife management area is natural, unembellished and attractive. There is room to move about.

But, also eventually, around the unrestricted perimeter of the Corps' boundaries will be collected a motley confusion of novelty shops, a conglomeration of bird baths and garden statues, markets, taverns and honky tonks, shack construction, dirt, noise, ugliness — a commercial cancer.

Unbelievable? Not at all.

A good example may be seen between Branson, Missouri, and the Shepherd of the Hills country. Or, along the "strip" at Lake Ozark. For a comparison of what to expect at Rend Lake, drive the Rend City road from Rte. 14.

Tourist spending is but one of the benefits to be gained with the development of the lake. Of importance to Rend Lake towns is the plentiful supply of water and a large recreation area just next door.

These are of interest to industries on the move. One of the reasons the General Tire Co. chose Mt. Vernon for its new radial tire factory, was the morale-building value of Rend Lake, and of other recreational facilities in southern Illinois.

In 1968, Fenton Harris, city editor of the *Benton Evening News*, visited communities in Missouri and Arkansas which had experienced the impact of reservoir development. Here are samples of his reports:

One town, located adjacent to a reservoir, "couldn't see the trees for the forest." It was getting retired families, but the tourists "by the millions" passed by without stopping. New motels, restaurants and novelty shops, financed by outside interests, grabbed what tourist business that did stop.

The town took note. Changed directions. Tourism, new industries, larger retail sales brought the per capita income from \$1,350 to \$2,700. This was in 1968. At the time Franklin County per capita income was \$2,175, and Jefferson County, \$2,345.

It was pointed out that some of the communities felt that someone else should do the work, and that they would get the benefits automatically. "These communities," the *News* stated, "became ghost towns so far as economic benefits were concerned.

"Those communities whose people and leaders lack the vision and the drive that competes for trade, for development and for the new peoples' requirements, will be those whose deterioration continues so that nothing will help them. Their business, their entire community will gradually wither away.

"Those who can see that if there is to be development there must be teamwork, accommodations, sites, planning, selling points, will get the benefits, and their people and their communities will prosper.

One man interviewed was quoted. "That reservoir out there, that's what gave us the chance . . . and don't forget it," the man said. And Harris added, "The way he emphasized it you can't."

One more statement.

Benton is holding its third annual Rend Lake Parade Saturday, May 25, at 10:02 a.m., with bands, topical floats, the always beautiful queens and their courts, and a prevue of Rend Lake and all the recreation facilities presently available. The theme this year is *Recreation: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow*.

The parade committee says, "You're Invited."



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And it's the same with everything else we do in the pages of *Outdoor Illinois* as we bring to our readers the *people* and *places* and *times* and *things* which have made — and will continue to make — Illinois different.

People like the Indians who met the first European explorers three centuries ago last year, a handsome, strong race descended from Illinoisans who had lived on this land for at least 117 centuries before that day in 1673 . . .

Places like Lusk Creek Canyon and Kincaid Mounds and Nauvoo and Galena and Maramech Hill and Prairie Albion and Zion and Creal Springs and the Koster Site and Jubilee College and Bishop Hill . . .

Outdoor Illinois Magazine

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Times like the Pennsylvanian period, 400 million years ago, when bituminous coal was beginning its long process of formation with the decaying vegetation in the widespread swamp forests which covered much of Illinois or times like the Middle Woodland when skilled Indian artisans were turning out marvelously shaped and smoothed effigies and statuary . . .

Things like the New Madrid earthquake and wild Illinois orchids and early trails in Illinois and lists of the biggest trees in Illinois and where to find them and how to create a wildflower garden under glass and U-Boats on the prairie and the Great Sauk Trail . . .

But you get the idea. We do like to keep our readers up to date. Even if the date was 400 million years ago in Illinois. For Illinois is the subject and the object of *Outdoor Illinois Magazine*. Everything and anything that makes our state different, unusual, enjoyable, interesting. Everything we think you would enjoy or need to know.

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OUTDOOR ILLINOIS MAGAZINE

READER INTEREST SURVEY

This survey is designed to help us plan future issues of Outdoor Illinois, and to aid in determining where our largest potential in readers lies. It can be clipped from the magazine without damage to reading matter. Please consider the questions carefully and send in your answers right away. Please check appropriate boxes or fill in blanks.

1. Age of subscriber_____
2. Sex of subscriber_____
3. Marital status of subscriber. ☐ Single ☐ Married ☐ Divorced ☐ Widowed
4. Number in subscriber's family (including yourself)_____ Children under 18_____
5. Do you reside in (check one) ☐ City; est. population_____ ☐ Town est. population_____ ☐ City suburb; est. population_____ ☐ Rural Community_____
6. Where do you receive your monthly issue of Outdoor Illinois? ☐ Home ☐ Office
7. How many people other than yourself read your monthly issue of Outdoor Illinois? _____ Others read my copy at home — _____ Others read my copy at the office
8. Do you own or rent your home? ☐ Own ☐ Rent
9. If you own your home what would you estimate its present market value? \$_____
10. Do you own a second home? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, what would you estimate its present market value? \$_____, and, what is its attraction (Ex: River, Mountains etc.)_____
11. How many automobiles do you own?.....What year and make are they_____ and how often do you trade?_____
12. In what category is your occupation? (Check one) ☐ Business, industry or finance ☐ Professional ☐ Education ☐ Government ☐ Other
13. What is the title of your position? (Ex: Manager, Vice President, Sales Representative etc.)_____
14. In what range is your personal income? (Check one) ☐ 5 to 10,000 ☐ 10 to 15,000 ☐ 15 to 20,000 ☐ 20 to 25,000 ☐ 25 to 35,000 ☐ 35 to 50,000 ☐ over 50,000
15. What is your highest attained educational level? ☐ Grade School ☐ High School ☐ College ☐ Graduate School ☐ Doctoral program
15. How much of an average Outdoor Illinois issue do you read ☐ 100% ☐ 75% ☐ 50% ☐ 25% ☐ less than 25%
17. How long do you retain your issues of Outdoor Illinois? ☐ Throw away after reading ☐ Keep a couple of months ☐ Keep 4 to 6 months ☐ Keep 1 year ☐ Hold indefinitely as reference
18. What percentage of the advertising in an average issue of Outdoor Illinois do you read? ☐ 100% ☐ 75% ☐ 50% ☐ less than 25%
19. Has an ad appearing in Outdoor Illinois influenced your buying decision. ☐ Yes ☐ No
20. Do you have an investment program ☐ Yes ☐ No. If yes, do you depend on your broker or yourself for advice? _____
21. Do you smoke? ☐ Yes ☐ No
22. What would you estimate your annual vacation expenditure_____and what would you estimate your annual business travel expenditure?_____
23. What is your favorite hobby or sport?_____
24. Which department do you generally read first? Please rate them 1 to 9, according to your preference:
a. What and Where_____ b. A Second Look_____ c. History articles_____ d. Articles on Natural History_____ e. Places to go_____ f. Recipes_____ g. Famous architecture_____ h. Letters_____ i. Calendar_____

Please Mail to

Outdoor Illinois Reader Survey

320 South Main Street BENTON, ILLINOIS 62812

Thanks for Your Help

On Nature's Trail

The Last Hike of Winter

with Joyce Marshall Brukoff

SPINNER IS a lively, medium sized black dog of no particular lineage. I like to walk with him on a clear, tingling day in the midwestern winter woods. Then the sky is piercing in a sharp blue arc, broken by the jagged shapes of nude black limbs and the white wisps of scattered cirrus clouds.

While others *exult* in the sweep and rush of downhill skiing or the roar and speed of a snowmobile, the more leisurely gait of snowshoes or the exhilarating trek of cross country ski trails, some of us find great pleasure in a quiet stroll down a country road or woodland path. Today, I am accompanied only by the intermittent song of wintering birds, small rustlings of diminutive life in the brush and the occasional bark of Spinner in the distance as he spots a bounding rabbit.

Everything is in slow motion. My steps are leisurely, the breeze is quieted by a wall of trees. Common dried weeds along the roadside present innumerable patterns of earth toned design, with spots of bright red berries drooping against the snow. Gone are the silvered, pale or yellow greens of spring and summer, replaced by the dark, sterner hue of the evergreens.

The sounds of the woods are broken by a droning jet. I look resentfully up-

wards, but Spinner, the wiser of we two, frolics on, ignoring this common sound which has no part in his world. Now he disappears into a pile of snow-coated underbrush and is off into the trees, keen on a scent lost to the paltry human nose. I hear rustlings and thrashings — a few subdued barks and out he emerges, wearing a tiara and sweater of snow. Saucy, white and black, he looks like he is part of a Walt Disney film strip.

We move slowly on. I don't attempt to label the various plants. It's enough to let their image flow uncluttered through the senses, forgetting for awhile what they are called in honor of their pervasive beauty . . . a quietly undulating sea of brown, ochre and beige, with dark red and orange accents. . . . an interrelated form with myriad array of shapes and sizes.

There are tracks in the snow to the side of the gravel road and leading into the woods. I look in vain for a deer or fox. . . even a rabbit, but whatever is there escapes me. The birds I see and hear, black darting shapes with bits of color, a startled call, a sleepy-sounding Chirrrrr. It is late in the afternoon.

We round a bend and come in sight of a farm owned by my friends, Jake and Helen Staab. Spinner whirls

around and plops to the ground with a truculent air. Now, headed in a different direction with the full sweep of open pastureland ahead, the north wind flings itself at us, searing my face with frosty gusts that feel like the burn of dry ice. It must be far below zero by now.

I look at Spinner. He is lying on the road, lazily picking bits of ice from between his toes. Beyond him, just at the side of the road, is a high breaker of milkweed, pods enticingly a-wave. I step over to take a few for some favorite spot at home, forgetting the snow for a moment, and go in over my knees. With disinterested gaze, Spinner watches me extricate myself. Feeling a little foolish, with snow in my boots and pods in my glove, I leave him to his icy toes and plod on towards the barn. In a moment he has bounded past me and rushes ahead to lie down near the barn door.

My son Christopher and his friend rush to meet me, two icy little elves, covered with snow from sledding down the hill to the frozen creek that winds past the farm. The snowmobiles, under their protective tarps, huddle together like sleeping monsters near the house, their place of repose marked by diesel fuel droppings. Skinny skis are propped up against the barn, along with ice-encrusted snowshoes I had used in the morning and had forgotten to shake and take inside.

We are back from the woods and surrounded by the sweet warm sounds of the farm, of family and friends. Spinner is off in search of scraps in the barn; I am in the basement, peeling off outerwear and anticipating hot coffee. It has been a short walk, less than two hours, yet a hundred pictures remain in my mind. That night, under the heavy security of Helen's hand-made quilts, in the incomparable still of the country winter dark, I think about an exciting snowmobile ride, steaming hot homemade bread. Then, just before falling asleep, I still can see the way a bent clump of grass cast a delicate shadow on the snow, creating in its fragility, a beauty that will be long remembered.





OLD TIME

Recipes

By Mrs. Laura H. Holman

TO DISTILL SIMPLE WATERS

Tie a piece of muslin or gauze over a glazed earthen pot, whose mouth is just large enough to received the bottom of a warming-pan. On the cloth lay the herb, clipped.

Then place upon them the warming-pan, with live coals in it, to cause the heat just enough to prevent burning, by which means as the steam issuing out of the herb cannot mount upwards by reason of the bottom of the pan just fitting the brim of the vessel below it, it must necessarily descend, and collect into water at the bottom of the receiver, and that strongly impregnated with the essential oil, and the salt of the vegetable thus distilled, which—if wanted to make spirituous or compound water, is easily done, by simply adding some good spirits or French brandy to it, which will keep good for a long time, and be much better than if the spirits had passed through a still, which must of necessity waste some of their strength.

Care should be taken not to let the fire be too strong, lest it scorch the plants . . . and to be made of charcoal, for continuance and better regulation, which must be managed by lifting up and laying down the lid, as wanted, to increase or decrease the degrees of heat.

The deeper the earthen pan, the cooler the season, and the less fire at first (afterward gradually to be raised), the greater the perfection of the distilled water.

As the more movable or volatile parts of vegetables are the aqueous, the oily, the gummy, the resinous and the saline, these are to be expected in the waters of this process. The heat here employed being so great as to burst the vessels of the plants, some of which contain so large a quantity of oil that it may be seen swimming on the surface of the water.

Although a small quantity only of distilled waters can be obtained at a time by this confined operation, yet it compensates in strength what is deficient in quantity.

Such liquors, if well corked up from the air, will keep a long time, especially if about a twentieth part of any spirits be added, in order to preserve the same more effectually.

TO MAKE ROSEMARY WATER

As the method of performing the operation by the cold still is the very same, whatever plant or flower is used, the following instance of procuring a water from rosemary will be abundantly sufficient to instruct the young practi-

tioner in the manner of conducting the process in all cases whatever.

Take rosemary, fresh gathered in its perfection, with the morning dew upon it, and lay it lightly and and unbruised upon the plate or bottom of the still. Cover the plate with its conical head, and apply a glass receiver to the nose of it. Make a small fire of charcoal under the plate, continuing it as long as any liquor comes over into the receiver.

When nothing more comes over, take off the still head, and remove the plant, putting fresh in its stead, and proceed as before. Continue to repeat the operation successively till a sufficient quantity of water is procured. Let this distilled water be kept at rest in clean bottles, close stopped, for some days in a cold place: by this means it will become limpid, and powerfully impregnated with the taste and smell of the plant.

STRAWBERRY WATER

Take of the bruised fruit, 20 pounds, and water in sufficient quantity. Draw off two gallons and a half. This water is very fragrant.

ROSE WATER

Take of the leaves of fresh damask roses with the heels cut off, 6 pounds. Water, as much as to prevent pruning. Distill off a gallon. The distilled water should be drawn from dried herbs, because the fresh cannot be got at all times in the year.

Whenever the fresh are used the weights must be increased, but whether fresh or dry are made use of, it is left to the judgment of the operator to vary the weight, according as the plants are in greater or less perfection, owing to the season in which they grew, or were collected.

—From the Universal Receipt Book

SKILLET COOKIES

2 tablespoons butter	1 cup dates, cut up fine and
2 eggs, well beaten	packed in a cup
1 cup white sugar	Dash of salt

Put all together in an iron skillet. Let cook and stir until mixture leaves side of skillet. Remove from fire and add:

2 cups rice Krispies	1 teaspoon vanilla
1 cup chopped nut meats	

Mix together and then drop from teaspoon on oil paper covered with cocoanut and let cool.

TO PRESERVE GRAPES

Take close bunches, whether white or red, not too ripe, and lay them in a jar. Put to them a quarter of a pound of sugar candy, and fill the jar with common brandy. Tie them up close with a bladder and set them in a dry place.

TO PRESERVE WALNUTS

Walnuts for keeping should be suffered to drop of themselves, and afterwards laid in an open airy plate till thoroughly dry. Then pack them in jars, boxes or casks, with fine clean sand, that has been well dried in the sun, in an oven, or before the fire. Lay walnuts alternately in layers of sand. Set them in a dry place, but not where it is too hot. In this manner, they have been kept good till the latter end of April.

HOT SPICED MILK DRINK

1 cup sweet milk	1 tablespoon molasses
Dash of cinnamon or nutmeg	

Combine milk, molasses and spices and heat thoroughly. Pour into cups and dust with additional cinnamon, all-spice or nutmeg, whichever you desire.

APPLE MUFFINS

2 cups flour	¼ teaspoon nutmeg
¼ cup sugar	1 beaten egg
3-4 teaspoons salt	1 cup sweet milk
¾ teaspoon cinnamon	½ cup melted shortening
¾ cup chopped apples	

Sift dry ingredients. Add combined milk, egg and shortening to the dry mixture and stir until just moistened. Add the apples.

Fill greased muffin pans two-thirds full and bake in a hot oven (400°) for 25 minutes. Makes one dozen muffins.

ROMPOPE

1 quart milk	12 egg yolks, beaten
1 cup sugar	1 cup brandy
1 stick cinnamon or vanilla bean	

Combine milk, sugar and cinnamon stick. Heat slowly to boiling, stirring frequently. Reduce heat and continue cooking, stirring constantly for 10 minutes.

Remove from heat and cool to lukewarm, stirring occasionally to prevent surface from congealing.

When cool, add beaten egg yolks. Return to heat and cook slowly until spoon is well coated and mixture is slightly thickened.

Cool again, stirring frequently until liquid is room temperature. Stir in brandy and store in refrigerator until ready to serve. Makes 1½ quarts.

(This recipe was sent us by our faithful California Illinoisan, Ethel Harris. She added a postscript:

"This recipe brings back memories of the 1930s when Mr. Harris and I were bringing into being a new type of hostelry, now the affluent motel. The first one was The English Village Inn, El Centro, Calif., 12 miles north of the Mexican border at Mexicali.

"Always at Christmas and New Year, at our favorite little eating place in Mexicali, 'on the house' the old Mexican served us a wine glass of rompoppe."

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601 S. First, Benton, Ill. 62812

Conservationist-At-Large

By Raymond Mostek

NEW STATE ROAD program for Illinois includes 79 bridges, overpasses and interchanges, and 12 new rest parks on the interstate system. The failure of Illinois to provide more rest areas and roadside parks to meet standards set by neighbor states has long been an irritant to both Illinois drivers and tourists from other states. Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan have long maintained roadside parks, and such small states as Iowa and Nebraska top Illinois in roadside park accommodations.

Illinois Department of Conservation has released some hints on feeding the birds in winter. Small birds have only small amounts of fat stored up and must eat much more food for them to maintain their body heat. Once you begin to feed birds, you should continue through the winter. They become adapted to handouts. An ordinary board with an edge to keep the feed from blowing off can serve as an excellent platform for birds. They should be placed in an open area, where the birds can spot predators such as cats. Cracked corn, millet and sunflower seeds are popular feed.

A consumer boycott against Russian and Japanese goods in protest against their continued hunting of whales, has been launched by the Friends of the Earth and the Animal Welfare Institute. Tony Mallin, chief of the Whale Project for Chicagoland FOE (6351 N. Oakley Ave., Chicago 60659) has inaugurated a sheet of whale stamps and stickers suitable for envelopes and letterheads, which he is sending out all over Canada and the USA for educational purposes. Mallin usually receives a dollar a sheet in donations. FOE has directed attention to the recent Stockholm Environmental Conference which called for a ten year moratorium on whale hunting. The Animal Welfare Institute has called for a ban on the

purchase of such Japanese items as Sony, and Hitachi radios, Datsun and Toyota cars, Nikon cameras and Japan Air Lines.

Ruffed Grouse have been released in southern Illinois by Department of Conservation biologists. Long missing from the state, they were received from an eastern state in exchange for 10 pairs of giant Canada Geese. The forty ruffed grouse were released in the Shawnee National Forest. Noted for its drumming sound, the grouse is a medium-size bird, larger than a quail but smaller than a pheasant. It weighs between a pound and a pound and a half. It will never become a major game species in Illinois because of limited areas of suitable habitat. Attempts were made to re-introduce the grouse in Illinois between 1953 and 1962 with no positive results. In 1967, 31 grouse were obtained from Ohio and released in Pope County with moderate success.

Conservationists have urged that other wildlife once known in large numbers in Illinois also be re-introduced into Shawnee National Forest. Some environmental groups are asking that the forest be extended; the U. S. Forest Service at one time had great plans to expand its holdings, but lack of funds for land acquisition, has made this project difficult, as has the failure to reimburse local counties adequately for land removed from the local taxing base.

Snowmobiles have been banned in the Illinois Beach State Park area, by the Illinois Department of Conservation but they have been okayed in several other state parks by Director Tony Dean. Back in 1959 only 259 snowmobiles were sold. Today, sales of snowmobiles will reach \$500 million from a group of Americans moaning and groaning about high taxes and high prices. Two million Americans now own or operate snowmobiles.

At least 15,000 persons will be seriously injured in snowmobile accidents this year. It is estimated that about 100 persons will die in some freakish snowmobile accident. The Illinois Committee on Snowmobiles is asking the state EPA to limit the noise level of snowmobiles in state parks to a noise decibel level of 65. Electric shop tools are usually at a level of 80, and most snowmobiles are 96 and above.

The U. S. Interior Department has now published the 1973 edition of "Camping in the National Park System." The book lists more than 29,000 campsites in 92 areas with several listed for the first time. A computerized experimental reservation system for 4,000 individual campsites will be tested in Acadia, Yosemite, Grand Canyon, Everglades, Yellowstone and Grand Teton. About the same number of sites will be treated on a first-come first served basis, as in the past. Copies of the book may be obtained for fifty cents each from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 20402.

According to the Illinois Conservation Dept., the Bobcat is now protected at all times in the state. F. tails have varied in the state from a low of 33,000 in 1967 to over 92,000 in 1969; Canvasbacks have dipped to 13,000 in 1961 to 152,000 in 1970. Black ducks usually number about 5% of the Mallard population.

More than one-third of the lifetime of most American citizens is unoccupied and they seem to spend a great deal of it seeking pleasure in sports and recreation. It is expected that the average work-week will shrink to 35 hours a week in a decade and some economists predict a 30 hour week by the year 2000. We have over 9 million golfers, 4 million tennis players, 35 million fishermen, ten million persons who love water skis. The U. S. Dept. of Interior expects that by 1980, Americans will spend more than 4 billion dollars on boating craft and services. Americans seem to have a preference for water-related activity.

Letters . . .

Dear Sirs—

Please extend our subscription for two more years. We are all enjoying the magazine very much.

We have visited many of the places you write about and we're looking forward to seeing many more.

Sincerely,

Mrs. George Stepp
O'Fallon, Ill.

Are there any aspects of Illinois, or areas, which you would like us to cover that we are not doing now? This is an open invitation to you and other readers to meddle in the business of editing the world's greatest magazine published in a railroad depot in Benton, in case you didn't recognize it. Uh, Benton, Illinois.

Naturally, we hope you'll stay within our editorial guidelines, use no curse words whatsoever, don't mumble out of the side of your mouth, and take any poxes you earn with a smile.

Dear Sir,

In regard to "What and Where" in the January issue, may I cast a vote for The Chicago and Big Muddy Coal and Coke Co., near Marion—date, 1901, give or take a year.

Sincerely yours,
G.R. Yohe
Urbana, Ill.

No, no, you're all wrong. Which proves that it DOES happen to the best of us!

Dear Sirs:

The picture in "What and Where" could be no other building than the Postville Court House in Lincoln, Illinois. It was the first court house for Logan County, in 1839, and was used until it was moved to Mt. Pulaski in 1848.

Sincerely,
Mr. and Mrs. J. Dalen
Shellhammer
German Prairie Farm
Illipolis, Ill.

You are correct in your answer and one of three who arrived in the same mail, for an absolute dead tie for the winning of the sensational prize this month, a one-year subscription to Outdoor Illinois Magazine.

Dear Sir,

About once a year I am able to identify your "What and Where" picture. And, this happens to be the month. The picture is the Postville Courthouse, located originally in Postville, which is now in Lincoln, Illinois. It was the county seat for awhile, before Logan County moved their county seat to Mt. Pulaski. Since then, the county seat has been moved once again back to Lincoln. It's association with Illinois history is that Lincoln served the public practicing law from its location.

Incidentally, the original Postville

Courthouse is now to be found in Greenfield Village, Henry Ford's museum in Dearborn, Michigan.

Now give me the bad news, how many persons beat me with the right answer?

Yours truly,
Gary C. Thomas
Springfield, Ill.

The good news is that you were first in with the right answer. The bad news is that you have revealed the present Postville Court House is a fake—only a replica of the real thing. As a result, we are giving you only a 10-month subscription to the world's greatest.

There's probably no end of people you have put wise to that original jakir, Santa Claus, right?

Dear Sir,

The What and Where photo in the February O.I. is of the Postville Courthouse, in Logan County, where Lincoln practiced law.

Mrs. Brice Anderson
Lancaster, Ill.

Notice how Mrs. Anderson eliminates all that chaff you toss in there, Gary? Get's right down to business, slaps it on a post card, hops down to the post office and tells the postmaster to get it—the post card—on down to Mt. Carmel and on the way to us. No foolin' around. None of that typing and folding the stationery and licking a stamp; just get it on and get it gone. She wins once a year, like clock-work.

Dear Sirs,

Please send me a one-year subscription to Outdoor Illinois. I have been reading it at the library. I would like to have my own.

Mrs. Norman Stennett
Albion, Ill.

Truly, a blow struck for freedom.

Dear Sir,

My husband and I are enjoying your articles about famous Illinois architecture in Outdoor Illinois — our favorite magazine.

We're sure you must have seen that gem of a church in Lewistown, Illinois. The St. James Episcopal Church was built more than 100 years ago, and planned by E. T. Potter of Philadelphia. It's considered a perfect copy of Gothic architecture.

Sincerely yours,
Ted and Edith Mavis
Macomb, Ill.

We're certain Dr. Paul Sprague has noted the church in his travels, and perhaps it will be one of those he treats in his continuing series on famous Illinois architecture.

Dear Sir,

I was so entranced by your ad for Outdoor Illinois in the February issue, I almost sent in a subscription, and then, remembered I am a subscriber and have been for several years.

(That is certainly a long, involved, sentence, and to think I was an English major — I won't name the university, they'd take back my degree.

Good luck,
Kathryn Devereaux
Peoria, Ill.

You struck a particularly resonant chord, since the Superintendent in Charge of All Maintenance and other people of his stripe—namely George M. Baggott of the Mercantile Trust banking outfit in St. Louis (not to be confused with George I. Baggott of Manufacturers Bank in the same city, a decent sort)—thought it was a lousy ad when we first tested it.

It pulled, of course, about 100 per cent better than a miserable ad the SICAM and the Missouri banker worked out for us.

Let's hear it for Ms. Devereaux, the greatest connoisseur of ads in the entire history of Peoria. And three clunks to the Sicam and his Missouri counterpart.

Sirs or Madams, as the Case may be,

Your recent libelous comments re the undersigned have been called to the attention of my attorney, who will no doubt be in contact with you as soon as I can disengage him from other adventures, political and otherwise.

Respectively, etc.,
Richard C. Cochran
Fairfield, Ill.

No, as our attorney there is no way you can enter into any action against us. Besides, you're lucky you can be libeled. Some folks are impossible to libel.

Dear Sirs:

Find enclosed check for renewal of Outdoor Illinois Magazine. I don't want to miss any copies. I'm looking forward to the series, "A New Geography of Illinois" and hope you do an article on Wayne County.

I especially enjoyed the article on Jackson County as we have picnicked and camped in that area—but I see there were many things we missed.

Sincerely yours,
Mrs. Lenora Walker
Fairfield, Ill.

The reception of our readers to "A New Geography" is so super we can't quite believe it. It will continue in coming issues.

We are not certain when Wayne County will be the subject.

We must first work out with your county's leading attorney, Mr. Richard C. Cochran, some sort of out-of-court settlement regarding his spurious claim to sole discovery of the famous Upside-Down Tree (var. Outdoorius Illinoisensis) at Bell Smith Springs.

You see, we have it on no less authority than Howard Porter, a townsman of Mr. Cochran, that the discovery was made not by Mr. Cochran but by his dog.

The dog, according to our inform-

ant, had been lost, and was finally discovered circling the tree on its back, with three legs in the air.

We have never known Mr. Porter to make light of such a serious matter, so it must be the truth.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed is my check for \$2.00 for a copy of David H. Burr's 1834 map of Illinois.

The February 1974 issue has been greatly enjoyed and I am looking forward to more of the New Geography of Illinois by Mohlenbrock.

With that, I'll take back what I wrote you in December, about the lists of flowers, etc.

Yours truly,
Byron H. Milburn
Mt. Vernon, Ill.

We won't hold it against you. As Bill Farley used to say to a particular friend, "We never disagree with you except when you are wrong."

Dear Sirs,

Please enter a gift subscription for ... Your magazine is a fine resource for my class as well as great enjoyment to me!

Thank you,
Mrs. John L. Heinlein
Shelbyville, Ill.

You are, indeed, kind.

Shawnee Chief Motel

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Room for 100 bathes. Men only. Free parking. Need no appointment. Bath \$5.50 or 5 for \$26.25. Memberships \$22 mo. or \$210 year, plus 65c each visit. Students halfprice. Oil-

alcohol or oak leaf broom massage, if wanted, \$3.50. 3 heat rooms, swimming pool, plunge pool, whirlpool, exercising, sun-polar deck, slumber room. Lunch room for snacks, steaks, juices, mineral waters from Hot Springs, Ark. and Vichy, France. Sauna rock heat is clean, dry, penetrating, easy to take — for fatigue, tension, weight control, body toning, assorted aches/pains. Central location — 1550 So. Kingshighway at McRee. One-half mi. so. of US Route 40. One block N of Interstate 44.

KERPAN'S ST. LOUIS SAUNA SPA
Finnish-Russian-Turkish Baths
OPEN 30 HOURS DAILY

Dear Sirs:

I enjoyed reading your February issue. In regards to the map of Jackson County, from the Illinois State Atlas of 1875, with the names of landowners who were farmers, could you write me where I could obtain a copy of this map? My great grandfather's name, Uriah Blue, is listed on the map.

I enjoyed the article on the Boone Cemetery, some of my ancestors, the Hensons, are buried there. I visited it before the improvement and after, too. Your article on Ava was true, the business district needs improvements. My father built some of the buildings.

Sincerely,
Mildred Blue Rollins
Ava, Ill.

We can arrange to have a copy made for \$4. The atlas itself, as you might suspect, has become something of a collector's item.

Dear Sir,

Our copy of Outdoor Illinois Vol. 12, No. 1—January 1974 arrived damaged in the mails. I wonder if I may prevail upon your goodness to send us another copy of this particular issue?

Your publication is most valuable to us as a ready source of information in our Natural History and Ecological Museum.

Has Outdoor Illinois ever compiled the botanical articles of Miriam W. Meyer into a book for sale? Also, please send a list and description of publications offered by Outdoor Illinois.

Thank you in advance for your help.

Sincerely,
Adelle J. Iannarone
Acting Librarian
The Chicago Academy of
Sciences
Chicago, Illinois

We will happily replace the bent issue and surely the U.S. Postal Seervice will make an adjustment for this, as they have with the three Vergennes subscribers who did not receive their magazines in February. That is, when they find out what happened to those three magazines.

Thank you for the kind words as to the worth of Outdoor Illinois as a museum piece. Put that way, perhaps you weren't being kind?

And, anyway, we, too, have had the idea Miriam Meyer's articles on wildflowers would assemble into a fine book, and are almost to the point of having enough of them available for that purpose. Hopefully, it may happen this year.

We will try to compile a list of material available and insert it in an early issue.

Dear Sir:

Just everything in the January issue of O.I. is very fine, but it is a real estate ad that really turned me on as it offers Peace and Tranquility on 40 acres at \$500 per acre adjoining Giant City State Park.

Serenity may have existed there when the Rev. S. S. Smith moved into a two-

story house on 40 acres bordering your Giant City on the west, but the condition set forth above was soon remedied as this Methodist minister had four children, two horses, two cows, a calf and a dog. The house was the parsonage and the rental on the 40 acres was \$10 per month. We moved there from Corinth the year Teddy Roosevelt became president.

While we were settling in my older brother lost his grip on a trapeze and flew out the open door of the barn loft and landed on a manure pile some distance from the barn. We had seen the Barnum and Bailey Circus a year earlier in Marion, which accounts for our interest in trapezes. (We had seen the parade from a metal porch roof just outside the window of Judge Crow's law office).

My younger brother was caught as he began sampling some white lead that he found in a trash pile. One of our cows crashed through the timbered roof of a tunnel of unknown origin. Our dog attempted to subdue a skunk with some terrible results.

On my birthday 70 years ago today (Feb. 14) my brother and I were running late for school and took a forbidden short-cut out across our front pasture. We reached a spot where we could crawl down through a cave and reach an opening into your Giant City. The bottom limb of a gum tree pointed to this opening and it was just strong enough for the young scholars to grab onto and, with good timing at the jump-off, one could float down on a graceful arc and clamp the legs around the tree trunk. Then the arms could moved over to hug the tree so that the descent could be controlled. I must have been thinking about the Valentine party planned in our school, as I hit the ground going too fast and as it slanted off to one side, I ended up sliding down the slope on the seat of my brand-new corduroy pants. They ripped open and there I was sitting on the cold, cold ground.

My brother reported to the teacher that I would be late as I didn't feel good, which was perfectly true as about then my mother had me draped across her knees and was exercising her prerogative with an undue effect because of my damaged pants.

Our land was poor, but we fertilized it and planted corn and vegetable seeds. We got jobs as field hands on the Patterson farm and our first day cutting asparagus was a disaster as the stalks we delivered to the packing shed were wilted.

The second day we brought an umbrella and cut our quota of a box each near the shed. We received 8 1/2¢ each that day and later increased our output. We would take a bucket full of rejects home each day for our mother to "put up." When the strawberry season came on we earned 5¢ for each box we picked. We had the same deal on rejects. As fast as we had enough small coins, we would change them for a big silver dollar, which we would use in a pitching game instead of washers.

At the end of the summer, we each bought a suit of clothes with our money.

The color was a dark green and an attached belt had a button in front.

Many years later, at a dinner party on Central Park South in Manhattan, I was telling of my tender-year efforts and affluence and my wife, who knew all this, exclaimed, "And before that, I suppose that you were just a bum!"

Sincerely,
Gerald C. Smith
Homelake, Colorado

It is good that a lifetime following oil interests around the world has not made you forget your childhood in the hills.

Gentlemen,

Please send a copy of OI for January 1974 to Brother Alfred Brosseau, St. Mary's College, California. As a botanist, Brother Alfred will enjoy the Apple River Canyon flora sketches. As a co-founder of the Fibonacci Association, he will enjoy Professor Voigt's article on number relations in plants.

Very truly yours,
Clyde A. Bridger
Springfield, Ill.

We were fascinated by the Fibonacci numbers, and Professor Voigt's mind-bending exercise on the numerical order in the plant world. And Dr. Mohlenbrock's initial effort, Apple River Canyon State Park, in a new series on Illinois state parks was remarkable for its thoroughness.

It is all part of our continuing effort to bring you information on things to see and do in Illinois. And apparently, judging from our mail, it is already being used to plan weekend trips and vacations this year

Dear Sir,

When making up your map of Illinois for "Illinois Vacations", don't forget the Middle Fork:

1. Illinois' finest canoeing stream, and inner-tubing stream.
2. No. 1 aquatic ecosystem.
3. Hiking.
4. Birdwatching.
5. Camping.
6. Picnicking.
7. Fishing (good for smallmouth).
8. Wildflowers and mushrooms.

There's 7,500 acres of public land here! Five areas are recommended for dedication as Illinois Nature Preserves. We have a food shortage and Dan Walker wants a 15,000-acre reservoir project here, instead of crop production.

We have an energy shortage and Dan Walker wants to build a playground for water skiers and motorboaters.

Clark Bullard
St. Joseph, Ill.

Well, look, if the reservoir is built — slurp — there will be more water for the — slurp — bluebreast darter to roam in if — slurp — it and the river redhorse and — slurp — the eastern sand darter and — slurp — the dusky darter and the rosyside shiner and — slurp, slurp — the bigeye chub can keep their rare and endangered selves hidden from the slurping reservoir fish.

And fie on recreational canoeing

and downriver floats and clean water, long, quiet pools and fastwater riffles and sand and gravel beaches.

Anyway, isn't there a girl coordinating these projects, in place of the Natural Resources Development Board? How does she read the reservoir versus preserve — the — stream movements?

How come you folks are always AGAINST something. Like, you're AGAINST the reservoir.

We don't count it when you are FOR preserving the ecosystem of darters and redhorses and shiners and chubs, naturally. They are just animals, after all.

Far be it from us to enter into your local arguments. Let us know, however, when your next canoe trip on the Middle Fork is scheduled and we will join you for a last look.

And besides, as soon as we get shut of those darters and their need for food, we'll raise some real fish in that lake.

Dear O.I.

Here is my check for renewal of subscription. Had a thought you might consider. With the type of absorbent paper you use, it might be useful to paint a target on the outside back cover. Old issues then could serve as a great dartboard.

With good aim, your subscribers would then find it difficult to miss any issues.

Sincerely,
James Bruner
Clearwater, Fla.

Better yet, you can use it to stuff in the crack under the door when we wish a water pox on the entirety of

Florida, and your front yard becomes awash. We would probably allow you a second concurrent subscription if you acted suitably penitent.

Dear Sir,

Many thanks, for the warm, encouraging review of Land Between the Rivers in the current O.I. We hope, as your review does, that a second printing will soon appear.

Best wishes,
Cordially,
Dan Piper
Department of English, SIU-C
Carbondale, Ill.

It appears that several others shared the same hope, and that Southern Illinois University Press shares it, too:

Dear Sir,

We are happy to say that we definitely will have a second printing of Land Between the Rivers. Our current plans are to have copies available sometime in August. The price is not definite at this time.

We have received a number of letters in response to the notice in the January edition of Outdoor Illinois.

Sincerely yours,
(Mrs) Pat Smart
Southern Illinois University
Press
Carbondale, Ill.

It is good news, indeed. The book does a very fine job of portraying the many aspects of a section of Illinois often mis-read and misunderstood.



Excellent food service in the rustic lodge overlooking the Illinois River. Par 3 golf, swimming, horse riding, nature trails in Illinois' largest state park. Scenic chair lift nearby (skiing in winter).

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Ladies and Gents:

Your February issue on Jackson County (complete with title page photo of Peoria at night—my old home town) is superb. May I suggest a similar in-depth treatment of Union County sometime? Even more than Jackson, it is rich in historical, scenic and other attractions.

Did you ever do an article with photos of Thebes in Alexander County? (If so, do you have any back issues left of that one?) I've seldom seen any town with so much unusual scenic beauty and historical interest in such a compacted space, and I say that after traveling halfway around the world.

On page 27 of the February issue you state: "(John A. Logan) was in the United States House of Representatives from 1859-1961." Yep! He came back to Little Egypt the same year I left, but maybe that's why he aged a lot more rapidly than I did.

On page 50 you tell a reader from Gibbon, Nebraska that you are glad she didn't ask for a site "to be southeast of

Gibbon, Nebraska, wherever that is." Well, old friend, it is a little hamlet of 1,388 population (approaching the size of Benton) 13 miles east of Kearney (rhymes with "blarney" for all you non-Cornhuskers) on U.S. 30, and it is also 20 miles south and west of Cairo, one of our few Egyptian names (pop. 686 plus three gray cats and two beagles). And if you wonder about Ohio, its settlers came from Ohio and Iowa (good thing it wasn't Missouri and Mississippi).

And if you weren't wondering about Ohio, that's still how we got our name. Come see us sometime. (Three blocks straight southwest of the old skunk works—follow your nose.)

Cordially yrs.,
(Rev.) Edward A. Johnson
Formerly of Dongola
Ohio, Nebraska

We had a pretty lengthy piece on Thebes in the January 1972 issue, and we have several yet on hand.

You tripped us up on the John A. Logan congressional service date. You won't believe we were trying to get a little seniority established, or would you? Yeah, being from Nebraska, you might fall for that.

The Ohio story appears plausible but, frankly, we thought that Nebraska itself rhymed with "blarney". Happy you were able to clarify our thinking, somewhat.

Dear Sir:

I can't resist the temptation to see you bring us a "more colorful magazine in half the time," although "on time" would suffice! I am enclosing a subscription for my father, and would like for it to begin with the February 1974 issue. I spent many hours in the A.B. Safford Memorial Library in Cairo and in Murphysboro, where my grandmother lived, and even in Benton (where my father graduated from high school.)

Every year I get a bad case of the shakes when I realize my O.I. subscription is about to expire and I haven't

received a renewal notice, only to find that the renewal notice went to Dad and he has renewed it for me. Please mark your records, such as they are, to send the notice to me. I'll pay it, honestly I will.

My check also includes \$1.00 for two copies of the June 1968 issue. Please send one to Dad and one to me. I hope that is the issue with the early migration trails section, as our ancestors were early settlers of southern Illinois, and followed those routes.

I enjoyed the first part of "A New Geography of Illinois" very much, and am looking forward to further geography lessons.

Yours truly,
Mrs. Paul Fritsche
Timonium, Md.

"On time," huh? "Records, such as they are"?

Listen, lady, the reason your folks knew those early trails was they followed the buffalo along them in hopes they might knock one in the head with a rock. At meal time.

They wore skin kilts before Scotsmen were invited.

In addition, Maryland is a lousy place to live and ain't as big as most Illinois townships!

But you were right about the Early Trails portfolio being in the June 1968 number, which is my point in your favor.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is a check for \$6.50 for a year's subscription to Outdoor Illinois. Thank you.

Louis "Dick" Nelms
Carbondale, Ill.

Dear Sir:

Sorry, didn't get this in sooner. Being a Postal Service employee, I find November and December to be hectic times, so just procrastinated too much.

I do enjoy your magazine, and hope

Compiled by the Illinois Division of Tourism

Calendar of Illinois Events

- Mar. 22—Pontiac — Tasting Luncheon by Jr. Women's Club. 1st United Methodist Church. 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
- Mar. 22-24—Lisle — "Mary, Mary". Studio Theatre. Ill. Benedictine Coll.
- Mar. 22-24—Quincy—Comm. Little Thre. Theatre Bldg.
- Mar. 23—Petersburg—Ill. Country Opry. Prairie Run.
- Mar. 23-24—Peoria—SPEDSQA Ann. Barbershop Concert Shrine Mosque.
- Mar. 23-24—Rock Island — Tri-City Symphony Concert. Augustana Coll. 8:30 p.m.
- Mar. 23-31—Chicago—Flower Show. McCormick Pl.
- Mar. 24—Belleville — Ainad Temple Potentate Ball. Augustine's Restaurant.
- Mar. 24—Belleville — Zonta Club Smorgasborg. Fischer's Restaurant. 11:30-3:30
- Mar. 24—Bloomington—Opening Perf. of Amer. Passion Play. Scottish Rite Temple.
- Mar. 24—Rockford — Rockford Chamber Orch. Maddox Theatre. Rockford Coll.
- Mar. 24—Springfield—Puppet Show. Ill. State Mus. 2:30 p.m.
- Mar. 25—Springfield—Symphony's Ann. Children's Concert. State Armory.
- Mar. 25-31—Edwardsville—Invitat. Sr. Show. Governor's Lounge Gallery.
- Mar. 26—Bloomington—Amateur Musical Concert. Scottish Rite Temple. 7:30 p.m.
- Mar. 26—Springfield—Symphony Concert. Springfield H.S. Aud.
- Mar. 27—Berwyn—Life All-Star Basketball Games. Morton West H.S.
- Mar. 27—Champaign — Jazz Band. 8 p.m. Krannert Center for Performing Arts.
- Mar. 27-31—Evanston — 1973 Art Fest. Winners Exhib. Evanston Art Cntr.
- Mar. 29-31—Lisle — "Mary, Mary". Studio Theatre. Ill. Benedictine Coll.

- Mar. 29-31—Quincy—Comm. Little Thre. Theatre Bldg. 8:15 p.m.
- Mar. 29-31—St. Charles—Town and Country Amateur Art Show. Baker Mem. Comm. House.
- Mar. 30—Macomb—Jr. Coll. Music Fest. Union Ballroom. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Mar. 30—Petersburg—Ill. Country Opry. Prairie Run.
- Mar. 30-31—Chicago—Inter. Kennel Club of Chgo. Dog Show. Inter. Amph.
- Mar. 31—East Moline—Greek Independence Day Celeb. Dinner. U.A.W. Hall.
- Mar. 31—Springfield—"Delta of the Orinoca". Ill. St. Mus. Aud. 2:30 p.m.

TOURS

Jacksonville: Illinois College. Founded 1829, granted first degree in state in 1835. Campus 69 acres, 19 major bldgs. Beecher Hall, built in 1829, oldest college building west of Alleghenies. Campus tours on request.

Jacksonville: MacMurray College. College for Women founded in 1846, College for Men founded in 1955. Campus includes 20 buildings on 60 acres. Affiliated with Methodist Church. Tours arranged by Public Relations Office.

Joliet: Joliet Jr. College. Established in 1901 and is the oldest public Jr. college in the U.S. The new 368½ acre campus is located at 1216 Humbolt Rd. off Rt. 52 W.

Joliet: Pilcher Park, Rte. 30 and Gougar Rd. Phone 726-2207 for information, reservations, tours through the Nature Museum and nature walks.

Joliet: St. Francis College. Located one mile from downtown Joliet. A four-year co-educational Liberal Arts college and has served the educational needs of greater Joliet for more than 40 yrs. The college is a cultural hub of the area, offering plays, concerts, speeches, and recitals.

Joppa: Electric Energy, Inc. Tour of power plant 9 to 11:30 and 1 to 4 Mon. thru Fri. Notice requested in advance for groups.

Lebanon: McKendree College. Oldest in Illinois, founded in 1828; home of Marion Bothwell Chapel and the McKendree Bell, reputed to be the oldest in America. Tours arranged by writing or calling Development Office 618-537-4481.

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Charley Brown Park, 3 miles west of Flora on new U. S. 50. Shady camping area, free fishing, boat rentals, dump station, playground, hot and cold showers, pony rides, stoves.

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Near Rend Lake on I-57, Ina exit

Charley Brown Park

Family Camping

3 miles west on Now U. S. 50
Flora, Illinois

OUTDOOR ILLINOIS

to see the monthly issues starting popping into the P. O. box real soon.

Laurence W. Charlton
Lockport, Ill.

works cheap, too, in the job description we have drawn up for him.

—S.I.C.A.M.

Dear Sir:

I wish you would inform Mr. Dearing, who wrote the National Road stories, that "Hail Columbia" and "Columbia the Gem of the Ocean" are different songs.

Maree "Willie the Wife" Dearing
Mt. Vernon, Ill.

Give him Hail Columbia, you mean?
As a merit award, naturally.

Sir:

Lament no more, O. I. Your money is enclosed—look!

We get a lot of information from your magazine. The letters to the editor (providing you do have someone with that classification) are always a good story.

Thanks.

Richard L. Fitzgerald
Lee, Mass.

We most certainly do have such a title in our table of organization. He

MARCH, 1974

Dear Sir:

We saw Outdoor Illinois in the lobby of the Starved Rock Lodge and decided to subscribe. Enclosed is check.

Allen W. Roberts
Yours truly,
Wheaton, Ill.

Dear Sir:

I enjoy reading your magazine which comes to our Lacon Public Library, but wish you'd climb up the map a little farther north more often. Articles by Paul Sprague are most interesting, the one this month on the Safford Library at Cairo especially, but he omitted the information as to the reason for the prominence of Mr. Safford. Being a descendant of one D.B. Safford, a Civil War veteran, I'd kind of like to know what A.B. did to earn his laurels.

No matter, what interests me most is that Mr. Sprague writes about archi-

tecture. Above I have traced from our Woodford County Illinois Atlas of 1873 a sort of Grandma Moses type of drawing of a house in Woodford County, near the small town of Cazenovia (which was named by John Safford, my g'ggrandpa, and three others, for their hometown of Cazenovia, N.Y., from whence they came in 1840.)

This frame house, still standing as of last year, was pointed out to me by my father, A.H. Younger (1873-1969) as having been a station on the Underground Railroad during the Civil War period. It has a two-story porch, with arches and sort of wooden lace trimming, and I believe the smaller third story porch was for the storage of "freight" on the Railway. I wonder if Mr. Sprague has written of such places in earlier issues, or if not, he might in the future.

It may be that the Woodford County Historical Society of Metamora, where there is one of the Lincoln-era court-houses, has done some research on this particular "station."

There is also a brick "station" north of Varna, in Marshall County, that might also prove interesting, as would

others along the "RR". As I said, I enjoy reading about early history and of course sound-off about things once in awhile myself.

If you can't make use of my ideas, light a fire with them. Right on, Mr. O.I.,

Sincerely,
June Younger
Lacon, Ill.

We'll pass along your architecture locations to Dr. Sprague. Others who have really fine pieces of architecture, particularly in towns of UNDER 500 population or in rural areas, may contact him by writing: Dr. Paul Sprague, Glessner House, 1800 South Prairie Ave., Chicago, Illinois. If you have some of the history and background information about the structure, so much the better.

Dear Sir,
January in February. I still like it.
Joseph M. Michaels
Libertyville, Ill.

Yes, but how about that February in February. And would you believe this March in March? We may even sail on and put out April in March.

Dear Sir,
I certainly want to congratulate and encourage you on the series of illustrated articles which Paul Sprague is doing for you on famous Illinois architecture. It is a most welcome feature!

We are particularly pleased that two Quincy buildings have been written up—the first one in the series, Warfield House, and the Huffman House from last month's issue. I would like to purchase two copies of each of those months if they are available. Please bill me personally.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,
George M. Irwin, President
Quincy Society of Fine Arts
Quincy, Ill.

We hesitate to say it, after the horrendous time western Illinois has had in being recognized by the rest of the state, but we are anxious to show more of the really fine architecture of Quincy and Adams County—but some of our readers would say "how come you have so much on western

Illinois?" (And others would say, "how come you have all those stories on Quincy and them other places in southern Illinois?")

We have the feeling we will brave it and other Quincy structures will appear in future issues.

For those who are unfamiliar, the Quincy area is a great place for that All-Illinois vacation this year. It is convenient to much of the state, has a number of historic and scenic attractions to go along with some first-rate architecture and other attractions, including some superb cultural programs brought very much to the people level.

Sirs,
I have been enjoying a stack of old (1972) magazines given me and I must say that while I have never heard of Outdoor Illinois, I enjoyed it enough to want to subscribe for myself and my sons.

Yours truly,
Dwight Shumway
Assumption, Ill.

Listen, buster, we never heard of . . . oops, the Superintendent in Charge of All Maintenance apparently misunderstood your letter. Luckily, we were able to stop his answer before he displayed his ignorance and insulted you at the same time.

Heavens, if we took offense at everyone that had never heard of Outdoor Illinois, there would be literally dozens of persons who would find themselves in that category and we couldn't afford to show hypersensitivity with that many people.

—The Editor

To: The Idiot
From: Superintendent in Charge of All Maintenance

How come? One of his kids lives in Alabama and you ain't never said nothing good about that state except it would be good for filling the hole if Georgia ever dropped out.

MEMO TO: S.I.C.A.M.
FROM: The Editor

Even though we have limited your duties to coincide with the fingers of both your hands, and have a greasy string on each finger to prove it, you somehow are unable to stay within the parameters we have assigned to you.

For your information, we at the Magazine do not look down upon any of Illinois' sister states. The fact that we spent part of a cold, damp miserable winter guarding the Chattahoochee River from the Alabama shore has had no influence on our opinion of Alabama. If we were so easily swayed, it would have been far easier to get that way by considering that you are obviously descended from a long string of Alabama red-necks, and thereby swing easily into detesting the entire populace for that reason — which would be a first-rate reason.

Henceforth, do not make any sudden moves without consulting your greasy strings.

TO: Idiot
FROM: S.I.C.A.M.
I won't move a-tall.

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BOOKS

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FOR SALE: "History of Hardin County Illinois-Historical Reminiscences of the early Pioneers of Hardin County. Price \$5.00. Ruby Franklin Hall, 306 S. Graham, Carbondale, Illinois 62901."

ANTOINETTE OF ILLINOIS: Story of French colonists in Illinois and the daughter who, as a second Joan of Arc, tried to make America a French province. \$4.00 Sunshine Press, Litchfield, Ill. 62556

TWO BOOKS, "Covered Bridges Illinois, Iowa," and "Old Mills," \$1.50 each; many illustrations, photos, maps. Swanson's, Box 334-S, Moline, Ill. 61265.

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MAGAZINE

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