

Illinois Recreates Century-Old Town Where Lincoln's Fame Was Born

Haunts of Rail Splitter's "First Love" Days to Live Anew as Unique Memorial

By NEA Service.

SALEM, Ill., Feb. 12.—Old Salem—the Salem of Abraham Lincoln's early hopes and dreams—is being rebuilt.

Building for building, the little town on the winding Sangamon river where tragedy first met Lincoln and marked him for his own, is being restored.

The old town site has been made into a state park, and when all the work of rebuilding is complete Salem will stand just as it was when Lincoln left it, every building and store, even every cowpath reproduced.

Old Salem will stand unique among the towns of the country—a monument to a great man's past—a little community of 1830 reincarnated after nearly 100 years.

Where Lincoln Kept Store

Many of the old buildings still exist or already have been restored to their original state. Members of the Old Salem-Lincoln League, working with pick and shovel, have unearthed the foundations of many of the houses which fell away, and these, too, are being rebuilt.

It was here that Lincoln ran a store with a man named Berry.

It was here that Lincoln's boat struck a snag in the Sangamon river, the accident changing the course of his life.

Here he saw and loved and lost the beautiful Ann Rutledge, the innkeeper's daughter.

Here Lincoln worked in the store he partly owned, and here he earned the name of "Honest Abe."

Here Lincoln walked three miles after a day of toil at the store, that he might repay a customer who had been the victim of a mistake in weight.

Here Lincoln became a surveyor and was appointed postmaster in 1832.

Here he bought a barrel of books from a covered wagon emigrant, and found therein a treasured Blackstone which he studied by the firelight.

His Political Start

Here Lincoln got his political start in life, running for the legislature and being elected.

Here Lincoln whipped the Clary gang into submission, and from Salem he went as a captain in the Black Hawk war.

Here sorrow wrecked his heart, and almost destroyed one of the greatest minds of the ages.

Lincoln came to Salem about 1831. His boat struck a snag at a bend in the Sangamon. As a result of the delay, it is related, Lincoln saw Ann Rutledge and decided to stay in Salem for a while. Salem had founded a few years before by Ann's father, James, the tavern-keeper, and a man named James Cameron.

Ann was a school girl in Minta Graham's school when Lincoln first met her. The young man took up his job in Berry's store and soon won respect among the townsfolk for his honesty.

Ann blossomed into womanhood at 19. Lincoln then was in his twenties. He was an admirer, although a bashful, awkward young man.

Then a stranger came to town, a man who called himself John McNeill. McNeill had charming manners and became popular at once with the girls of the town. He prospered in business, too, his store becoming one of Salem's most imposing establishments.

Ann Rutledge loved him. They were seen together at the social functions of the little Illinois community. Word went around that they were engaged.

Drama Enters

But McNeill had a story to tell, and he unfolded it to Ann. His name was not McNeill at all, but John McNamara. His family was old and respected in New York, but his father had gone bankrupt. Fired with the desire to restore the family fortunes, the young man had come west to Salem.

Now things were improving. He had a little farm, and would go back and bring the old folk to Salem. He would marry Ann upon his return.

Ann trusted him, though the wise folk of the village regarded his tale with scorn. She promised to wait. McNamara left.

Week after week Ann waited, while city rumor and whispered conversations beat upon her pride.

Week after week she went to the little postoffice. Abe Lincoln sorted the letters. Here was never there.

Lincoln's love, slow growing, became bolder. Ardently he pressed his courtship. Steadfastly Ann clung to her pledge.

But through their daily associations at the tavern where Lincoln roomed, Ann's love for "Honest Abe" grew. Her friends encouraged it. They cast fresh doubts on the story of McNamara. Ann decided she would write to McNamara, and ask him to free her from her pledge.

She wrote, but no word came back. She worried, waited, wondered. She wasted and fell ill.

Longing to give herself to Lincoln, yet she was held by the firm bond of that promise to her absent lover.

Death Releases Her

Finally she lay back in the arms of delirium. Raving, she called for Lincoln. Honest Abe came. He sat alone with her at the bedside in the crude little tavern. The world never heard the words she spoke.

Agony marked Lincoln's face when Ann became unconscious a few days later. Then a few days more and she died—on Aug. 25, 1835.

Lincoln became a man walking in a dream. His mind became dark. He avoided the old haunts of his friends in Salem and took long walks along the winding Sangamon.

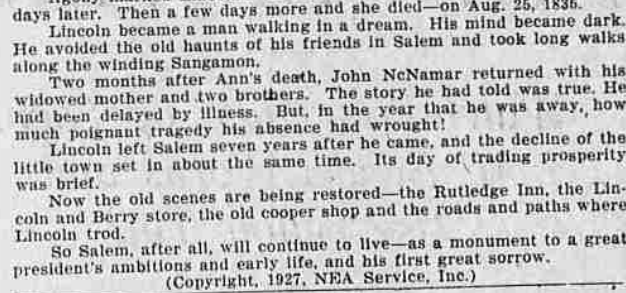
Two months after Ann's death, John McNamara returned with his widowed mother and two brothers. The story he had told was true. He had been delayed by illness. But, in the year that he was away, how much poignant tragedy his absence had wrought!

Lincoln left Salem seven years after he came, and the decline of the little town set in about the same time. Its day of trading prosperity was brief.

Now the old scenes are being restored—the Rutledge Inn, the Lincoln and Berry store, the old cooper shop and the roads and paths where Lincoln trod.

So Salem, after all, will continue to live—as a monument to a great president's ambitions and early life, and his first great sorrow.

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at two prettily appointed tables centered with low bowls of red tulips and red and white carnations. Covers were placed for Mrs. May Pyron, Mrs. Dave Young, Mrs. Ray Arthur, Mrs. R. L. Brockley, Mrs. Clarice Jewett, Miss Greta Harrison, Miss Isabelle Warren, Miss Florence Schaffer, Miss Marion Lighthizer, Miss Mable Kronke, Miss Edna Hodges, Miss Mona Porter, Miss Luella Weatherford, Miss Luella Brown, Miss Jessie Pyron.

St. Valentine's Dinner Entertains Club Group

A St. Valentine's dinner for which Dr. and Mrs. H. C. Church were hosts at their home at 1127 East Third street on Friday entertained the members of the Northside Five Hundred Club and a few additional guests.

Small red hearts were the decorations used at the tables where afterward five hundred was in play during the evening. Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Hochradel received the guest

prize and first prize went to Mr. and Mrs. G. V. Wimberly.

The guests were Mrs. Fleischaker, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Hochradel and Elwin Church and the members invited for the evening were: Mr. and Mrs. G. V. Wimberly, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Whipple, Mr. and Mrs. J. Wendell Wright, Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Sellick, Mr. and Mrs. L. Crocker, Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Bruun and Mr. and Mrs. Roy Hartley.

Washington Man Visitor Here

Prescott Gately, prominent attorney of Washington, D. C., has been a visitor in Roseburg for the week. Mrs. Gately, who is the daughter of Mrs. Blinger Hermann, did not make the trip from the east. They are well known in Roseburg and have visited in the city a number of times since making their home at the capital.

Their daughter, Miss Helen Gately, who is one of the very attractive debutantes of the 1926 season and a popular member of the younger set at the national capital, has a wide circle of friends here.

Community Progress Program for Woman's Club Meeting Tuesday

A Community Progress program is being arranged for the meeting of the Roseburg Woman's Club on Tuesday afternoon at the I. O. O. F. hall for the club members. Mrs. W. S. Jost, president of the club, will preside.

A meeting of the board of directors and officers of the club was held this week for the purpose of discussing some issues of importance which will be taken up at the club meeting.

The program includes the following talks: "The City Beautiful," by Mrs. Foster Butler; "The City Sanitary," by Mrs. Warren G. Burt; "The City Political," by Mrs. Albert Minton; "The City Social," by Mrs. A. G. McMillin; Planning a Mod-

ern City, by Mrs. Wm. Bell.

Mrs. Birney West will have charge of the music for the afternoon.

Valentine's Party Given for Group of Matrons and Maids

An attractive affair of the week having St. Valentine's day as its motif was given on Friday evening. Miss Thelma Newhard and Miss Mary Hodges joining in entertaining a group of friends with cards and dancing at the O. D. Newhard home.

Afterward luncheon was served

WAYS YOUNG ABE WALKED



The restored Lincoln and Berry store



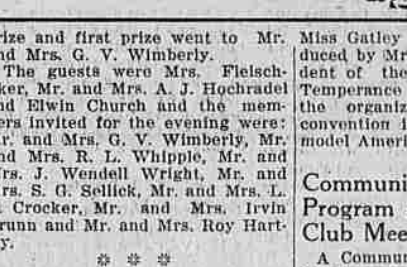
It was in Salem where Lincoln met love and tragedy



Where he walked 3 miles to repay a customer



Where he read Blackstone by the light of the fireplace



Where he practiced surveying



The bend in Sangamon river which changed the course in Lincoln's life

Well Arranged Program for Junior High P. T. A. Meeting

A very entertaining program has been prepared for the meeting of the Junior High School P. T. A., which will take place on Tuesday evening of next week at the school building and will follow the business meeting at 7:30 o'clock.

As matters of importance will be discussed by the association members at this time a good attendance is desired.

The program prepared by the faculty includes the following: Selection by the Junior High School Orchestra; piano solo, Gladys Strong; reading, Mr. Reynolds; pantomime given by students from Public Speaking department; saxophone solo, Walter Germain; reading, Lois Cobb.

Following the program ten minute talks will be given on the subject of "Ideals of Citizenship as Presented to the Youth of Today" by the Business World, from the press, the political and business worlds and the home. Mrs. J. E. Runyan will speak on "The Home," Mrs. Lillian Fulton on "The Press," Dr. Geo. E. Houck on "The Political World," and Foster Butler on "The Business World."

The National anthem will be sung by the members at the close.

Valentine's Motif for Club Affair Saturday

The ladies of the Thimble Club of Oregon Rose Lodge No. 228 were invited to the home of Mrs. Loren Gale for their meeting on Saturday.

St. Valentine's motif was used in the rooms and at the table where afterward luncheon was served.

The club elected as their officers for this year, Mrs. Harry Wheeler as president and Mrs. Martha Cook, secretary-treasurer.

Sewing and music were arranged by the hostess for the diversion of her guests. Seated about the prettily appointed table, which was centered with a low bowl of spring flowers, were Mrs. Dan Morgan of Albany, Mrs. Clyde Crosby of Eugene, additional guests and Mrs. Otto Troxel, Mrs. P. Hohl, Mrs. John Fredricks, Mrs. Harry Wheeler, Mrs. Frank Weichlein and the hostess.

Roseburg Violinist Plays for Rotary Club at Coast on Thursday

Miss Naomi Scott of the Helpline Conservatory of Music was the guest of the Marshfield-North Bend Rotary club at their meeting this week and gave several numbers on the musical program.

Miss Scott, who is instructor of the violin department in the conservatory, gave a very pleasing group of solos.

The Coos Bay Times has the following to say of Miss Scott's numbers:

"Miss Scott, who is a sister of Mrs. A. L. Martin, proved herself an accomplished violinist and won the hearts of her hearers with the first number, the 'Second Concerto' in D Minor, Romance, by Wieniawski. It was a beautiful, dreamy production with a penetrating richness and color-variety that proved the violinist master of the interpretative art. Two encores were given, the first, 'Berceuse Slave,' by Neruda, a Russian cradle song. Miss Scott rendered it with rare appreciation and a sense of melody and feeling for music that is seldom encountered. In response to an insistent demand, Miss Scott gave Van Gough's 'Scherzo' No. 2. This beautiful bit of melody was entirely different from the two preceding numbers. It awakened harmony into bright, swift, almost furious life. It covered the whole range of the violin and within that

range, the colors of the rainbow, and more, flash and die upon the keenly attentive some."

Camp Fire Groups Entertain With Banquet Friday

The Camp Fire groups of the city gave a banquet on Friday evening for their mothers and fathers.

The program consisted of community singing of Camp Fire songs.

(Continued on page five.)

MOVIES

MAJESTIC THEATRE

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ANTLERS THEATRE

Dorothy Gish is Perfect Actress

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Motion picture fans love to see Mr. Barthelmess and Miss Gish play together. They remember that the young star attained his first real success as Miss Gish's leading man in her now famous series of comedies, made under the direction of David Wark Griffith.

These included "Boots," "I'll Get Him Yet" and other comedy hits.

Then Mr. Barthelmess became a star. He secured Miss Gish to play opposite him in his popular action story, "Pursue," and he again secured her for the difficult role of La Clavel in Joseph Herkesholmer's "The Bright Shawl." Both of these roles were distinct departures for Miss Gish, but she scored in each.

Ever since Edmund Goulding wrote "The Beautiful City," Mr. Barthelmess has had Miss Gish in mind for the role of the heroine, Mollie, a young Irish girl of the New York East Side. So, when he was able to secure her for the picture, he started making the picture.

"A funny little fat man, with queer padding feet."

This was the remark of a prominent New York reviewer concerning Otis Harlan's work in "What Happened to Jones." Now Otis Harlan, once the toast of New York, and its merriest laugh giver is at the Antlers Theatre today in another comedy success, "The Whole Town's Talking," directed by Edward Laemmle.

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LIBERTY THEATRE

One of the most blood tingling episodes filmed in many a day has been incorporated into "The Last Trail," the newest of Tom Mix pictures, which opened at the Liberty last night.

The scenes in question depict a stage coach race which for genuine excitement and everything that goes with it constitutes a mark for other producers of thrilling pictures to shoot at. See it for yourself.

Mix is his same, lovable self in his latest film, which is Fox Film's screen version of the noted story of the same name by Zane Grey. Tom is cast as the foe of a desperate gang of stage coach looters. He is given plenty of opportunities to display his horsemanship and marksmanship.

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