

Adventuring along the Old Galena Trail



This photo gallery is my souvenir photo album of the Galena Trail. I took the photographs while locating old Trail alignments for the Galena Trail and Coach Road Project . Beginning in the summer of 2008, directional signs will guide travelers over the country roads that I followed and studied. Country roads are fun , and the trip along the Old Galena Trail from Peoria to Galena and into the surrounding Lead Mine Region of Illinois and Wisconsin is always a rare adventure.

Patricia Goitein, Editor, Galena Trail Newsletter

Photo: Blue Ridge Road, Hallock Township, Peoria County

*My trips along the Galena Trail & Coach Road began on Peoria's Riverfront,
at the foot of Main Street – from the Riverfront Visitor's Center*



Peoria Riverfront Visitor's Center, 110 NE Water St.
open: Monday- Friday, 9-5
Saturday, 9-4
Closed Sunday



*Don't miss an excursion on the *Spirit of Peoria*,
sailing from the levee next to the Visitor's Center.*

2008 Schedule, see: www.spiritofpeoria.com



Peoria's Court House Square has lots of interesting and lively attractions. It is particularly well known for its memorials and gardens, and its lunch hour food vendors & outdoor entertainment scheduled throughout the spring and summer season.



Above: Soldiers' & Sailors' Civil War Memorial, 1899, Fritz Triebel, sculptor.



Right: high school musicians perform at annual spring fine arts fair, daily in the Court House Square, noon, April-May. Sponsored by Peoria's Regional School District



- * The Mounds at Mossville, Peoria County along IL 29, are the most visible reminder of the Galena Trail's prehistoric heritage.



- * Flat-top Chert blade, from the Colorado-Wyoming Rockies, found in Bureau Co.

Projectile points identified by Duane Esarey, Archaeologist, formerly of Dickson Mounds State Museum. Flat-top Chert identified by Dr. G. Frison, Frison Institute, University of Wyoming, Laramie. Photographs: Patricia Goitein



- * St. Charles Pt., Hixton silicified sandstone, from Silver Mound, Wisconsin, 8,000+ yrs. old, found at Northampton, IL., Peoria County



- * Knife River Flint found at Grand de Tour, Lee Co. Property of the Lee County Historical Society



Archaeological excavation of a prehistoric Indian site, near the Narrows, Illinois River



- * Mica found in Bureau County, property of Me Polo Historical Society. Mica was also found in the mounds at Mossville.

I soon learned that The Galena Trail followed prehistoric Indian Trails and that

Native Americans had blazed the first trails across the Prairies. Artifacts found on farms and in archaeological excavations along the Trail show that Native Americans lived here for over 9,000 years. Trade materials, including Flat-top chert from the Rocky Mountains, Knife River Flint from North Dakota, and mica from Kentucky, have been found within the Trail corridor.

*It's hard to resist a real county fair or farm show,
they're always fun.*



2008 County Fair Schedule:

Heart of Illinois Fair, Peoria, July 11-19, 2008
Marshall-Putnam County Fair, Rte. 29, Henry, IL. , July 9-13
Elizabeth Community Fair, Elizabeth, July 18-20
Lee County 4-H Fair & Jr. Show, Amboy, July 24-27
Ogle County Fair , Oregon, IL., July 30 – August 2
Jo Daviess County Fair, Warren, IL., August
Carroll County Fair, Milledgeville, IL. Aug. 4-9
Stephenson County Fair, Freeport, Aug. 19-24

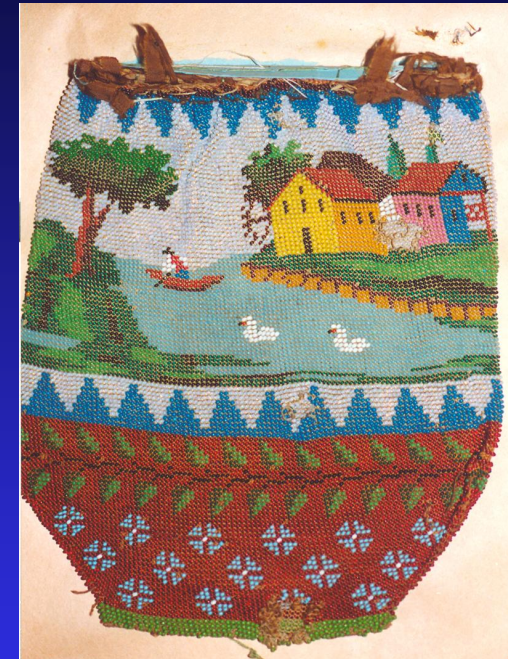
2008 Schedule click:

www.galenatrail.com/schedule_2008.html

The Trail and the country towns are dotted with interesting homes, barns, and churches, while local historical society museums preserve relics of the early families who built them. Museum hours are often erratic, but I find that the collections usually are well worth my wait.



Lone Tree School, Wheatland Twp. Hall, Bureau County



Indian beaded bag, 1832, Lee County Historical Society, donated to the Society by a pioneer family. A similar bag of the same period was donated to the Princeton Historical Society by the Coulter Family, Dad Joe Smith's descendants from Dad Joe Grove. Smith ran a well known Early Tavern along the Galena Trail.



Old wood barns are a disappearing item along the trail. The relics are picturesque.



Bits and pieces of china found at site of Chambers' Tavern, Chambers' Grove, Ogle County. The tavern was looted and burned by Black Hawk's men during the Black Hawk War in 1832, but later was rebuilt and reopened.

Come to the Pimiteoui Pow-Wow, the dancers & drums will amaze you!

Today's intertribal Pow-wows are expressions of contemporary Indian culture as it has evolved since the Native American rights Movement of the 1960's. The ceremonies, dances and drum music, are based on ancient traditions, however, and have inspired a new appreciation for the Native Peoples who lived here for over 9,000 years.



Pimiteoui Pow-wow, July, Sommer Park, Peoria County
2008 Date to be announced.



Chinquapin Festival

Folk Music and Storytelling at Camp Wokonda
September 2008 date to be announced

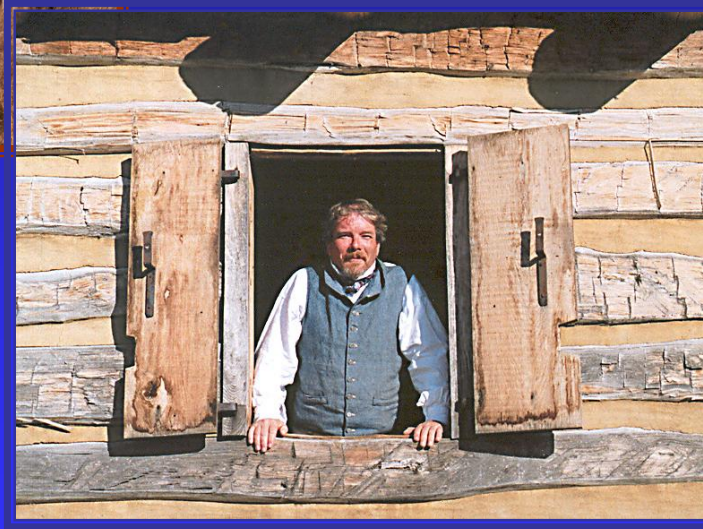


Camp Wokanda is on
The Galena Trail near
Mossville, Peoria County
Cabin rentals and
Primitive camping
available.

For more information:
Call (309) 686-3360
Or
www.peoriaparks.org

Visit Apple River Fort, Elizabeth, Illinois

Jo Daviess County



Summer Hours: 9-5, Wednesday – Sunday, April – Labor Day 2008
Winter hours: Wednesday – Sunday, 9am to 4pm.

See Fort website to confirm hours and events schedule.

www.appleriverfort.org

Telephone: 815/858-2028

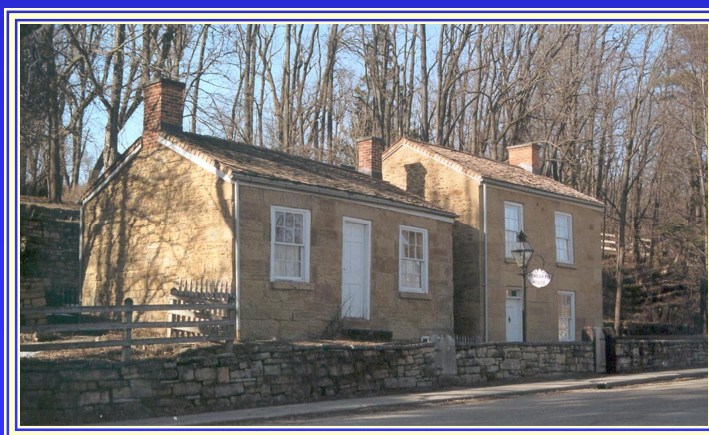
The Trail and Coach Roads end in Galena and the scenic Lead Mine Region of NW Illinois and SW Wisconsin. The region is noted for its distinctive stone architecture, natural beauty, quirky lead mine tours & the gravity hill at Shullsburg.



Limestone mansion, c. 1850, Shullsburg, WI.
www.shullsburgwisconsin.org



Grant Home Historic Site, Galena, IL.
www.granthome.com



Cornish Miners Cottages, Pendarvis Historic Site
Mineral Point, WI. www.wisconsinhistory.org/pendarvis



Galena History Museum
www.galenahistorymuseum.org

We hope that you enjoy your adventures along the Old Galena Trail.



Credits:

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References:

Matson, N., Reminiscences of Bureau County, c. 1872, Republican Press, Princeton, Illinois

Rennick, Percival, *"The Peoria & Galena Trail & Coach Road,"* the Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society, Vol. 27, No. 4, January, 1935, pp 351-431.

Peoria, Marshall, Bureau, Lee, Ogle, Carroll, Stephenson & Jo Daviess Counties

