PLACES OF THE PAST

Illinois Archaeological Sites and Exhibits

Illinois Association for Advancement of Archaeology
Places of the Past is a guidebook to Illinois archaeological sites and places throughout the state where you can view archaeological exhibits. These range from the world-famous Cahokia site, a Native American metropolis of 1,000 years ago in southwestern Illinois, to 19th century industrial ruins. Some sites and museums, like Dickson Mounds in western Illinois, are devoted entirely to the archaeology of past cultures. Historical societies may have only one case of local American Indian material, but all of the listings have in common that they are on property accessible to the public, and have some tie-in to Illinois archaeology.

During your visit, you can learn about prehistoric Native American cultures, beginning more than 12,000 years ago, up through the period of contact with European explorers and settlers in the 17th to 19th centuries. With more than 125 listings in Places of the Past, there is likely a location near you. Be sure to check on current hours before your visit.

Look for programs annually in September for Illinois Archaeology Awareness Month; see ilarchsurv.org. Some events are held at the places listed here, and others are sponsored by chapters of the Illinois Association for Advancement of Archaeology.

From the Dunleith Mound Group in far northwestern Illinois, to the Kincaid mound and village site in the Ohio River valley, archaeology is all around us in Illinois, and now you know where to find it.

Alice Berkson
Editor

Kelvin Sampson
Design Editor

For an electronic version of Places of the Past scan this code or go to www.museum.state.il.us/iaaa/placesofthepast.pdf

ILLINOIS ENDANGERED SITES

Archaeological sites in Illinois have material remains such as ancient stone tools, earthenware ceramic fragments, and tool-making debitage. These are often found at the present-day land surface where no other trace of structures or activities remain. Extending back as early as 12,000 years ago, these sites contain the only direct record of people who once lived within our state. Locations of early EuroAmerican exploration and settlement also have artifacts reflecting activities of that period. Modern farming practices and construction are rapidly destroying these sites, which sometimes also contain fragments of bone and charred plant remains that reflect early methods of subsistence.

State and federal legislation protects the thousands of archaeological sites on public property in Illinois. Any disturbance (including surface artifact collecting) to sites on public property is prohibited. Visitors to sites on public property can help protect them by reporting any activity, such as digging or collecting artifacts, to the facility supervisor. Rock-art sites with petroglyphs and pictographs are especially fragile and should not be touched.

Human skeletal remains, grave markers, and grave artifacts on private property in Illinois have legal protection from disturbance at all times. For more information see the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency web page Archaeology in Preservation Services http://www.illinois.gov/ihpa/Preserve/Pages/Archaeology.aspx.
Places of the Past is a special publication by the Illinois Association for Advancement of Archaeology (IAAA), which also publishes the quarterly Illinois Antiquity distributed to IAAA members. Items published by IAAA reflect the views of the authors. Publication does not imply IAAA endorsement. To obtain additional copies, contact the Editor at 904 Mayfair Rd., Champaign, IL 61821, email berksonalice@gmail.com.

ISSN 87560070 Copyright 2014

Cover images, top left to bottom right: Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site & Interpretive Center, Collinsville; Gramercy Park Dunleith Mound Group, East Dubuque; New Philadelphia Town Site, Barry; Fort Massac State Park, Metropolis; Lincoln’s New Salem State Historic Site, Petersburg; Cahokia Mounds Interpretive Center, Collinsville; 19th century artifacts from a central Illinois site.
Be sure to see these

**Albany Mounds State Historic Site**
The Albany site is the largest Middle Woodland (Hopewell) mound and village complex owned by the State. Dating between 200 BC and AD 300, it originally contained 96 burial mounds. A portion of the burial mounds was purchased in 1970, with an additional part of the village site later added to the State Historic Site. Material excavated from the site shows that the residents participated in the Hopewell trade network, with items ranging from conch shells from the Gulf Coast to obsidian from the Rocky Mountains, making it a center for the Hopewell culture. Visitors can view some of the 39 mounds walking along a mown path; the site also features a 100-acre restored prairie. The Friends of the Albany Mounds Foundation is dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of the site. See page 7 for more information.

**Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site & Interpretive Center**
Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site preserves 2,200 acres of the largest prehistoric Indian community north of Mexico. The original site covered nearly 6 square miles, included 120 mounds and, at its peak around AD 1050-1150, had a population of 10-20,000 people of the Mississippian culture. The focal point of the site, Monks Mound, is an earthen platform mound that covered more than 14 acres and rose to a height of 100 feet above the American Bottom floodplain. The site is one of the cultural resources of the lower Illinois valley. Exhibits include information and artifacts detailing the rich and complex array of prehistoric cultures known to the area, ranging from the Paleoindian to Mississippian time periods, and also includes information about modern investigative methods used in archaeological research. Highlights include displays about Clovis point manufacture, Middle Woodland exchange networks, and prehistoric pottery manufacture. Archeological investigations at the renowned Koster site (Greene County, IL) are also richly illustrated through photographs and artifacts. The Center for American Archaeology sponsors a free Archeology Day in mid-July with family activities, and has an array of field experiences and educational programs available for the public. See page 17 for more information.

**Center for American Archeology Museum**
Located on scenic Illinois State Highway 100, historic Kamp General Store is now a museum featuring artifacts, exhibits, and media presentations highlighting the cultural history and archeological resources of the lower Illinois valley. Exhibits include information and artifacts detailing the rich and complex array of prehistoric cultures known to the area, ranging from the Paleoindian to Mississippian time periods, and also includes information about modern investigative methods used in archeological research. Highlights include displays about Clovis point manufacture, Middle Woodland exchange networks, and prehistoric pottery manufacture. Archeological investigations at the renowned Koster site (Greene County, IL) are also richly illustrated through photographs and artifacts. The Center for American Archeology sponsors a free Archeology Day in mid-July with family activities, and has an array of field experiences and educational programs available for the public. See page 17 for more information.
the few places in North America designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The world-class Interpretive Center features exhibits, dioramas, numerous artifacts and graphics, a life-size village recreation and museum shop. Seasonal guided tours and self-guided tours are available as well as year-round events. A variety of ridgetop, conical and platform mounds can be viewed from several tour trails, as well as a reconstructed portion of the two-mile long stockade that once enclosed the city center. An area west of Monks Mound has a reconstruction of the Woodhenge sun calendar, used to determine the equinoxes and solstices. See page 22 for more information.

**Dickson Mounds Museum**
A branch of the Illinois State Museum and a National Historic Site, Dickson Mounds is one of the major on-site archaeological museums in the country. The museum offers a unique opportunity to explore the world of the American Indian in an awe-inspiring journey through 12,000 years of human experience in the Illinois River valley. Multimedia presentations detail the shift from reliance on wild resources to food production and village life, and the changes brought about by the arrival of Europeans. Now a partner in the Nature Conservancy’s restoration of Emiquon Preserve, Dickson Mounds sponsors a variety of special exhibits and programs throughout the year. See page 15 for more information.

**Kincaid Mounds State Historic Site**
At Kincaid Mounds are preserved the remains of earthen mounds that were once part of a city created by Native Americans during the Middle Mississippian period (AD 900-1500). This period was characterized by the rise of agriculture, specialization of labor within communities, and building of elaborate mound systems for burials and rituals. The Kincaid site likely served as a trade link between native settlements in the Cumberland-Tennessee river valleys and the metropolis at Cahokia. State holdings contain the remains of nine mounds and a large portion of the associated village site. Additional mounds and the remaining portion of the village are located on adjacent private property. See page 27 for more information.
(1) **Gramercy Park**  
**Dunleith Mound Group**  
East Dubuque, IL  
cityofeastdubuque.com/communityinformation.html  
The park, situated on a high bluff overlooking the Mississippi River valley, includes 20 mounds still standing of an original group of 26 Middle Woodland conical mounds.

(2) **Galena & U.S. Grant Museum**  
211 S. Bench St., Galena, IL 61036  
Daily 9AM-4:30PM  
815.777.9129  
galenahistorymuseum.org  
Regional museum includes a small Native American display with artifacts from the Galena area.

(3) **Apple River Fort State Historic Site**  
311 E. Myrtle St., Elizabeth, IL 61028  
We-Su 9AM-5PM  
815.858.2028  
appleriverfort.org  
An interpretive center relates the story of the Black Hawk War, as well as the interactions between the Sauk and Mesquakie (Fox) and lead miners in the early 19th century.

(4) **Wapello Land & Water Reserve**  
8642 Ill. Rte. 84 South, Hanover, IL  
jdcf.org  
Owned by the Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation, the reserve includes the John Chapman site, a significant village and mound site with contemporaneous Woodland and Mississippian artifacts.

(5) **Macktown Living History Education Center**  
2221 Freeport Rd., Rockton, IL 61072  
815.624.4200  
macktownlivinghistory.com  
The Education Center highlights archaeology investigating the 1838 to 1850 settlement, as well as native habitations dating back 10,000 years; volunteers are welcome at annual summer field work.

(6) **Carl and Myrna Nygren Wetland Preserve**  
Rockton Road, 1 mile west of Rockton, IL
Northwest Illinois

(Entrance is across from Macktown)
815.964.6666
naturalland.org/nygren.html

Owned by the Natural Land Institute, this 700-acre preserve encompasses many Native American sites including two mound groups; look for signage along the Diana Nora Nature Trail.

(7) **BURPEE MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY**
737 N. Main St., Rockford, IL 61103
10AM-5PM daily; Fr-Sa until 8PM
815.965.3433
burpee.org
Natural sciences museum with an emphasis on geology and paleontology has a time line “The First People” with displays of Illinois-Wisconsin state line Native American artifacts.

(8) **BEATTIE MOUND GROUP**
North Main & Park Ave., Rockford, IL 815.987.8800
www.rockfordparks.org
An effigy mound group dating to the Late Woodland period is located in a downtown Rockford park just west of the Rock River.

(9) **THOMSON MOUND**
Lewis Ave., Thomson, IL 815.259.3628
mvr.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/MississippiRiverProject/Recreation/ThomsonCauseway.aspx
thomsonillinois.com/thomson-causeway/
Woodland period mound can be viewed along a path at the Mississippi River edge.

(10) **JARRETT PRAIRIE CENTER**
7993 N. River Rd., Byron, IL 61010
M-F 8AM-4:30PM (Tu &Th until 8PM); Sa 9AM-4PM, Su 1-4PM
815.234.8535
byronforestpreserve.com
Museum displays include information on the archaeology of the Rock River area of Ogle County.

(11) **ALBANY MOUNDS STATE HISTORIC SITE**
South Cherry Street, Albany, IL 309.788.0177
albanymounds.com
illinois.gov/ihpa/Experience/Sites/NorthWest/Pages/Albany-Mounds.aspx
The Albany site is a large Middle Woodland mound and village complex dating between 200 BC and AD 300; it originally contained 96 burial mounds, making it one of the largest mound groups in Illinois.

(12) **SINNISSEPP PARK**
Hwy 2, north of Sterling, IL 815.622.6200
sterlingparks.org/facilities-a-parks/parks/sinnissippi-park.html
Sinnissippi Park contains an impressive group of Hopewelian burial mounds and the Sterling-Rock Falls Historical Society Museum on 3rd Street in Sterling has information on the mounds.

(13) **JOHN DEERE HISTORIC SITE**
8334 S. Clinton St., Grand Detour, Dixon, IL 61021
May-Oct: We-Su 9AM-5PM
815.652.4551
Exhibit hall has on display the 1963 excavations of John Deere’s blacksmith shop where he developed the first successful steel plow in 1837.
**(14) Loveland Community House Museum**
513 W. Second St., Dixon, IL 61021
Th-Fr 9AM-2PM, Sa 10AM-3PM
815.284.2741
lovelandcommunityhouse.org/museum/
Museum has local history items including prehistoric stone artifacts.

**Tu-Sa 12-4PM**
309.782.5021
arsenalhistoricalsociety.org/museum/index.html
North American battlefield specimens are included in the extensive weapons exhibits.

**(15) Northwest Territory Historic Center**
205 West Fifth Street, Dixon, IL 61021
Tu-Sa 9AM-4PM
815.288.5508
nthc.org/
Permanent exhibits include *An Unchanged Land Native American – Black Hawk War.*

**(16) Rock Island Arsenal Museum**
Building 60, Rock Island Arsenal, Rock Island, IL 61299
(Visitors use Moline entrance to Arsenal Island)

**(17) Colonel Davenport Home**
North Shore of Arsenal Island, Rock Island Arsenal, Rock Island, IL 61204
May-Oct: Th-Su 12-4PM
309.786.7336
davenport-house.org
Items found at excavations at George Davenport’s 1833 home are exhibited.

**(18) Black Hawk State Historic Site**
Hauberg Indian Museum
1510 46th Ave., Rock Island, IL 61201
We-Su 9AM-12, 1-5PM
309.788.9536
blackhawkpark.org/museum
Museum exhibits include a timeline with artifact displays and 18th to 19th century artifacts from Sauk and Mesquakie tribes who lived nearby.

**(19) Rock Island County Historical Society**
822 11th Ave., Moline, IL 61265
Exhibits include prehistoric and historic period Native American artifacts.

(20) Geneseo Historical Association
205 S. State St., Geneseo, IL 61254
By appointment, 9AM-noon, 1-3PM
Jun-Aug: Sa 2-4PM
309.944.3043
geneseohistoricalmuseum.com
The large Italianate home, originally constructed in 1855, has displays including local American Indian artifacts.

(21) Bishop Hill State Historic Site
Bishop Hill, IL 61409
We-Su 9AM-5PM
309.927.3345
state.il.us/hpa/hs/bishop_hill.htm
bishophill.com
Bishop Hill Colony was a mid-1800s utopian community founded a group of Swedish religious dissidents; the Colony Church includes an exhibit on archaeological investigations at Bishop Hill.

(22) Henry County Historical Society Museum
202 S. Park St., Bishop Hill, IL 61419
May-Oct: 10AM-4PM
309.927.3528
bishophill.com
Museum displays include an exhibit with stone tools illustrating the prehistory of Henry County.

(23) Kewanee Historical Society
211 N. Chestnut St., Kewanee, IL 61443
May-Oct: Th & Sa 1:30-4PM
Labor Day Weekend
9AM-5PM
309.854.9701
kewaneehistory.com
Three floors of local history include prehistoric stone tools donated by local collectors.

(24) Bureau County Museum
109 Park Ave. West, Princeton, IL 61356
Mar-Nov: We-Sa 1-5PM
815.875.2184
bureaucountymuseum.com
Exhibits include Native American artifacts.

Albany Mounds State Historic Site
(1) **Elizabeth Lake Nature Preserve**
Varga Archaeological Site
Hawk’s Point Road/Rte. 173 & 11000 Lakeview Rd., Richmond, IL
815.338.6223
mccdistrict.org
345-acre preserve includes an archaeological site complex.

(2) **Powers-Walker House at Glacial Park**
Rte. 31 & Harts Rd., Ringwood, IL 60072
Open for special events
815.338.6223
mccdistrict.org
Archaeological investigations at the 1854 Greek Revival farmhouse are featured in displays and at public programs.

(3) **Elgin Area Historical Society & Museum**
360 Park St., Elgin, IL 60120
We-Sa 12-4PM
847.742.4248
elginhistory.org
Museum exhibits include the E. Maude and Carl Parlasca Native American Collection, housed in Old Main, an 1856 building that was once part of the Elgin Academy.

(4) **St. Charles History Museum**
215 E. Main St., St. Charles, IL 60174
Tu-Sa 10AM-4PM; Ju-Aug: Su 12-4PM
630.584.6967
stcmuseum.org
The museum has over 25 exhibits on local history, including American Indian stone artifacts and handicrafts.

(5) **Garfield Farm Inn & Museum**
3N016 Garfield Rd., LaFox IL 60147
Jun-Sep: We & Su 1-4PM
630.584.8485
garfieldfarm.org
Museum includes original 1840s buildings and period events and educational programs; selected artifacts from on-site excavations are displayed.
Northeast Illinois

(6) Schingoethe Center for Native American Cultures
Aurora University, Aurora, IL 60506
630.844.7843
aurora.edu/museum
The museum, relocating to the new Aurora University Welcome Center, reopens in January 2015 including a display of ancient Native American artifacts.

(7) Addison Historical Museum
131 W. Lake St., Addison, IL 60101
Sa 10AM-2PM; Jun-Aug: Sa noon-3PM
630.628.1433
addisonadvantage.org/visitors/history.shtml
Located in the 1892 Balzer House, this local historical museum includes an exhibit with area American Indian artifacts.

(8) Winfield Mounds Forest Preserve
Winfield Road, between Geneva Road and High Lake Road, Winfield, IL
630.933.7200
dupageforest.com/Conservation/Forest_Preserves/Winfield_Mounds.aspx
The three conical mounds within the forest preserve are thought to date to the Late Woodland period, between AD 600-1000.

(9) Warrenville Historical Museum
3S 530 Second St., Warrenville, IL 60555
Feb-Nov: Su 14PM; Jun-Aug: also We 14PM
630.393.4215
warrenvillehistorical.org
Permanent exhibits include a display of Native American artifacts collected by an area family.

(10) Mitchell Museum of the American Indian
3001 Central St., Evanston, IL 60201
Tu-Sa 10AM-5PM; Th until 8PM; Su 12-4PM
847.475.1030
mitchellmuseum.org
The museum, with a focus on North American Indian art, culture, and history, includes some prehistoric artifacts.

(11) Potawatomi Village Marker
Forest Home Cemetery
863 S. Des Plaines Ave., Forest Park, IL
708.366.1900
www.oprfhistory.org/explore_local_history/foresthome/default.aspx
The Forest Home Cemetery, once the location of a Potawatomi village and burial ground, has an historical monument noting its location.

(12) Chicago Portage National Historic Site
Portage Woods, 4600 S. Harlem Ave., Lyons, IL
800.870.3666
chicagoportage.org
fpdcc.com
The first Europeans to traverse the portage between the Great Lakes and the Mississippi River system in 1673 were Marquette and Jolliet.

(13) Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Dr., Chicago, IL 60605
Daily 9AM-5PM
312.922.9410
fieldmuseum.org
The outstanding natural history and ethnographic exhibits at the Field Museum include material from Illinois archaeological sites.

(14) Plainfield Historical Society Museum
23836 W. Main St., Plainfield, IL 60544
Sa 1-4PM
815.436.4073
museum.state.il.us/iaaa
Located in an old grain elevator office on Ill. Rte. 126, the museum has a display of local Native American artifacts.

(15) **Isle a la Cache Museum**  
501 E. 135th St. (Romeo Rd.), Romeoville, IL 60411  
Tu-Sa 10AM-4PM, Su 12-4PM  
815.886.1467  
reconnectwith-nature.org/preserves-trails/Isle-a-la-Cache  
Located on an 80-acre island in the Des Plaines River, museum exhibits recreate the fur trade era of the 18th century, when French traders encountered the native Potowatomi.

(16) **Joliet Iron Works Historic Site**  
Columbia Street, just east of Rte. 53 (Scott St.) and east of the Ruby St. Bridge, Joliet, IL  
8AM-Sunset  
815.727.8700  
reconnectwith-nature.org/preserves-trails/Joliet-Iron-Works  
Archaeological investigations at this important industrial site showed that the foundations of 19th-century blast furnaces and related facilities are still present and can be viewed along a walking trail.

(17) **Oakwood Mound**  
Joliet, IL  
This low, broad burial mound is located in Oakwood Cemetery, Joliet, opposite the intersection of Walnut Street and U.S. 30; the Woodland period mound may be a little older than the Briscoe Mounds.

(18) **Higginbotham Woods Earthwork**  
Joliet, IL  
From U.S. 30 west of the I-80 interchange, go north on Gougar St., then east on Francis Rd. Look for roadside parking and follow trail north.  
815.741.7275  
jolietpark.org  
This earthwork, now in a City of Joliet park, is an irregularly shaped embankment probably dating to the Middle Woodland period, around 200 BC to AD 500.

(19) **Briscoe Mounds**  
Front St., Channahon, IL  
I-55 Bluff Road Exit, then south via the frontage road towards Channahon, IL  
dnr.state.il.us/lands/landmgmt/parks/i&m/CORRIDOR/archeo/sites/sites.htm  
Situated along the northern side of the Des Plaines River valley, this mound and village site is affiliated with the Langford tradition of the Upper Mississippian, dating to around AD 1200-1500.

(20) **Putnam County Historical Society & Museum**  
327 Old Hwy 26, Hennepin, IL 61327  
Apr-Dec: We, Fr 10AM-3PM  
815.925.7560  
rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilpchs/  
Museum with a focus on county history and agricultural heritage has a display of locally collected Native American artifacts.

(21) **LaSalle County Historical Society Museum**  
Canal and Mill Streets, Utica, IL 61373  
Sa-Su 12-4PM  
Apr-Nov: We-Fr 10AM-4PM  
Dec-Mar: Th-Fr 10AM-4PM  
815.667.4861  
lasallecountymuseum.org
Housed in a former limestone warehouse erected in 1848 for the Illinois & Michigan Canal, the museum includes extensive displays of artifacts excavated from the Grand Village of the Kaskaskia, located across the Illinois River from Starved Rock.

(22) STARVED ROCK STATE PARK
Utica, IL 61373
815.667.4726
dnr.state.il.us/lands/landmgt/parks/i&M/east/starve/park.htm
The Starved Rock region was the location of human settlement from as early as 8,000 BC; including Native groups and French explorers – numerous archaeological investigations were conducted within the park, and Visitor Center exhibits interpret its complex culture history.

(23) GRUNDY COUNTY COURT HOUSE
111 E. Washington St., Morris, IL 60450
Mo-Fr 8AM-4:30PM
815.942.9024
Lobby display cases include locally collected artifacts.

(24) ILLINOIS AND MICHIGAN CANAL NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR
401 Ottawa St. (Visitor Center), Morris, IL 60450
815.942.0796, 815.588.1100
landmcanal.org
canalcor.org
Iandmcanal.org canalcor.org
cr.nps.gov/heritageareas/AREAS/ILMI.HTM
dnr.state.il.us/lands/landmgt/parks/i&m/main.htm
The 97-mile long Illinois and Michigan Canal, completed in 1848, extends from Chicago to LaSalle-Peru, crossing through parts of five counties including many archaeological sites and museums, parks and natural areas.

(25) MIDEWIN NATIONAL TALLGRASS PRAIRIE
30239 S. State Rte. 53, Wilmington, IL 60481
Trails: 4AM-10PM
Welcome Center: Nov-Mar:
Mo-Fr 8AM-4:30PM
Apr-Oct: Mo-Sa 8AM-4:30PM
815.423.6370
fs.usda.gov/midewin
Nearly 20,000 acres of former farmland, once the location of the Joliet Arsenal, are undergoing restoration by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service; visitors can learn about prairie ecology and early inhabitants at the Welcome Center.

(26) KANKAKEE RIVER STATE PARK
5314 W. Rte. 102, Bourbonnais, IL 60914
815.933.1383
dnr.state.il.us/lands/landmgt/parks/R2/KANKAKEE.HTM
The park extends for 11 miles along both sides of the Kankakee River northwest of Kankakee and includes several documented archaeological sites.

(27) KANKAKEE COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM
801 S. 8th St., Kankakee, IL 60901
Tu-Fr 10AM-4PM; Sa 1-4PM
815.932.5279
kankakeecountymuseum.com
Permanent exhibits include American Indian artifacts related to cultural periods, with an extensive display of Potawattomi material from a nearby site.

Mitchell Museum of the American Indian
(1) **Essley-Noble Museum**
1406 SE 2nd Ave.,
Aledo, IL 61231
Apr-Oct: We, Sa, Su 1-5PM
Nov-Mar: Sa 12-4PM
309.582.2280
mchsil.org
The museum, managed by the Mercer County Historical Society, has an exhibit of prehistoric Native American artifacts found in Mercer County.

(2) **Marshall County Historical Society & Museum**
314 Fifth St., Lacon, IL 61540
Tu & We 9AM-noon, Sa 10AM-noon
309.246.2349
marshallcountyhistory.org
The museum has on display several diverse collections, including American Indian artifacts.

(3) **New Boston Historical Society and Museum**
202 Main St., New Boston, IL 61272
Apr-Oct.: Su 1-5PM
309-587-8181
Museum includes a display of local American Indian artifacts.

(4) **Henderson County Museum**
East Main St., Raritan, IL
Open seasonally
hendersoncountyillinoismuseum.com/
Museum complex of five buildings includes displays of artifacts donated by local collectors.

(5) **Warren County History Museum**
228 S. Sunny Lane, Monmouth, IL 61462
1st Su of the month, 1-4PM
309.221.3864
www.warrencountyhistoricalsociety.net
Located in the old Solid Rich Church building, County historical items include a case of local American Indian artifacts.

(6) **Knox County Museum**
33 Public Square, Knoxville, IL 61448
Open by appointment
309.289.6919
kville.org/kchistory/Museum.html
The county museum is located in a building completed in 2009 and includes American Indian artifacts donated by area residents.
(7) Chillicothe Historical Society Museum  
723 N. 4th St., Chillicothe, IL 61523  
We, 1st Su of the month, 1-4 PM  
Summer: We, Sa, Su 1-4PM  
309.274.9076  
chillicothehistorical.org.  
Permanent exhibits include American Indian artifacts.

(8) Peoria Riverfront Museum  
222 SW Washington St., Peoria IL 61602  
Mo-Th 10AM-5PM; Fr-Sa 10AM-8PM, Su 12-5PM  
closed some Mondays Sep - May  
309.686.7000  
peoriariverfrontmuseum.org  
Museum combines the former Lakeview Museum along with additional partners, emphasizing art, natural history and science, and includes Native American artifacts on exhibit.

(9) Wildlife Prairie State Park  
3826 N. Taylor Rd., Hanna City, IL 61536  
9AM-4:30PM  
309.676.0998  
wildlifeprairiestatepark.org  
This 2,000-acre zoological park has the kinds of animals that were on the prairie during pioneer days; there is a pioneer farmstead and a visitor center that includes a display of Native American artifacts.

(10) Weld House Museum  
Mulholland Street, Nauvoo, IL 62354  
May-Oct: 1-4PM  
nauvoohistoricalsociety.org  
The 1840s Greek Revival home includes a local artifact collection.

(11) Rheinberger Museum  
Nauvoo State Park, Ill. Rte. 96, south edge of Nauvoo, IL 62354  
May-Oct: 1-5PM  
217.453.6671  
dnr.state.il.us/lands/landmgt/PARKS/R4/NAUVOO.HTM  
nauvoohistoricalsociety.org  
Housed in a restored home originally built by Mormons in the 1840s, the museum exhibits artifacts from all periods of Nauvoo’s history, from Native American occupation to the 1930s.

(12) LaHarpe Historical Society Museum  
111 E. Main, LaHarpe, IL 61450  
Mo & Sa 9-11AM & 1-4 PM  
217.659.3635  
carthage.lib.il.us/community/museums.html  
Permanent displays include local artifacts.

(13) Kibbe Hancock Heritage Museum  
304 Walnut, Carthage, IL 62321  
Mo, We, Fr-Su 1-4PM  
May-Sep: Daily 10AM-4PM  
217.357.3119  
carthage.lib.il.us/community/museums.html  
Permanent displays include American Indian exhibits.

(14) Dickson Mounds Museum  
10956 N. Dickson Mounds Rd., Lewistown, IL 61542  
Daily 8:30AM-5PM  
309.547.3721  
museum.state.il.us/ismsites/dickson/experiencedicksonmounds.com  
A branch of the Illinois State Museum and a National Historic Site, Dickson Mounds is one of the major onsite archaeological museums in the country, and is now a partner in the Nature Conservancy’s restoration of Emiquon.
(1) **Indian Mounds Park**  
5th and Harrison, Quincy, IL  
217.223.7703  
quincyparkdistrict.com  
The 37-acre park at the southwest edge of Quincy, overlooking the Mississippi River, includes several Woodland period mounds and a walking time line with interpretive panels and engravings of artifacts on concrete blocks.

(2) **Quincy Museum**  
1601 Maine St., Quincy, IL 62301  
Tu-Su 1-5PM  
217.224.7669  
thequincymuseum.com  
With an emphasis on natural history, the museum has a large collection of area Native American artifacts, with a portion of the collection on display.

(3) **Old Lincoln Courtroom & Museum**  
101 W. 3rd St., Beardstown, IL 62618  
Apr-Nov: Mo-Sa 10AM-4PM  
217.323.4514  
lincolninbeard-stown.org  
Restored courtroom where Abraham Lincoln participated in trials has a display of locally collected Native American artifacts.

(4) **New Philadelphia Town Site**  
Barry, IL  
newphiladelphiail.org  
A National Historic Landmark located southwest of Barry, IL, New Philadelphia is the earliest town in the United States to be platted by an African American, Free Frank McWorter; this was the location of recent archaeological investigations.

(5) **Ray Norbut State Fish & Wildlife Area**  
46816 290th Ave., Griggsville, IL 62340  
217.833.2811  
dnr.state.il.us/lands/Landmgt/PARKS/R4/ray.htm
This conservation area, with more than 1,000 acres along the Illinois River, includes Middle Woodland mounds and habitation areas.

(6) **PIKE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM**
400 E. Jefferson, Pittsfield, IL 62363
We-Sa 10AM-2PM
217.285.4618
Located in the Historic East School, the history museum includes a display of Native American artifacts.

(7) **CENTER FOR AMERICAN ARCHEOLOGY MUSEUM AND VISITOR CENTER**
Route 100, Kampsville, IL 62053
Apr-Oct: Tu-Fr 10AM-5PM, Sa 10AM-4PM, Su 12-4PM
618.653.4316
caa-archeology.org
The CAA Museum and Visitor Center features artifacts, exhibits, and media presentations highlighting the cultural history and archeological resources of the lower Illinois River valley, and visitors can view ongoing summer excavations.

(8) **TWO RIVERS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE**
Headquarters and Visitors Center, Hagen Road, Calhoun County
618.883.2524
fws.gov/refuge/two_rivers
Located in the Calhoun Division, the wildlife refuge headquarters and visitors center for the Mark Twain National Wildlife Refuge includes area artifacts.

(9) **PERE MARQUETTE STATE PARK**
Grafton, IL 62037
618.786.3323
dnr.state.il.us/lands/Landmg/ PARKS/R4/Peremarq.htm
This 8,000-acre preservation area offers spectacular views of the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers from several bluff top points; numerous archaeological studies have been conducted at the park, and the visitor center and hiking trails include information about some of the archaeological sites there.

(10) **PRINCIPIA SCHOOL OF NATIONS MUSEUM**
Principia College, Elsah, IL 62028
School hours & by appt.
618.374.5236
community.principia.edu/museum
Museum includes American Indian collections.

(11) **VILLAGE OF ELSAH MUSEUM**
26 LaSalle St., Elsah, IL 62028
Apr-Oct: Sa-Su 1-4PM
618.374.1568
elash.org
Museum includes local history and artifacts.
(1) Fort Crevecoeur
508 Scenic Park Place, Creve Coeur, IL 61610
Park: Daily, 7AM-8PM
309.694.3193
ftcrevecoeur.org
The reproductions of a fort, Indian village, and trading house include a display of American Indian material.

(2) Comlara Park
13001 Recreation Area Dr., Hudson, IL 61748
Summer: 8AM-6PM
309.434.6770
mcleancountyil.gov
The park visitor center, part of the Evergreen Lake public recreation complex, includes a display about the area’s American Indian inhabitants.

(3) McLean County Museum of History
200 N. Main St., Bloomington, IL 61701
Mo-Sa 10AM-5PM (Tu, until 9PM)
309.827.0428
mchistory.org
The permanent exhibits include some material from the Grand Village of the Kickapoo, as well as some ancient Native American material.

(4) Grand Village of the Kickapoo Park
8144 N 3100 East Road, Arrowsmith, IL
309.261.3043
The park has an historical marker with information about the Kickapoo village occupied during the late 18th to early 19th centuries; it was the location of Illinois State University archaeological investigations.
(5) **Water Tower Museum**  
145 S. Market St., Paxton, IL 60957  
Summer: Su 2-4PM  
Winter: 1st Su of month 2-4PM  
217.379.3723  
Roots.ancestry.com/~ilfchs/  
Museum displays include Native American artifacts collected from the area.

(6) **Rockwell Mound**  
N. Orange and Franklin Sts., Havana, IL 309.543.6240  
havanaparkdistrict.com  
You can imagine Indian life as it was 2,000 years ago at the largest and best-preserved Middle Woodland Indian mound in the Midwest.

(7) **Lincoln’s New Salem State Historic Site**  
15588 History Lane, Petersburg, IL 62575  
Mar-Oct: 9AM-5PM  
Nov-Feb: We-Su: 9AM-5PM  
217.632.4000  
lincolnsnewsalem.com  
Abraham Lincoln lived in New Salem in the 1830s, and you can visit numerous buildings reconstructed to their period appearance; signs for an “archaeology walk” show places excavated during archaeological investigations.

(8) **Museum of the Grand Prairie**  
600 N. Lombard St., Mahomet, IL 61853  
Mar-Dec: Su 1-5PM  
Mar-May & Sep-Dec: Daily 1-5PM  
Jun-Aug: Mon-Sat 10AM-5PM  
217.586.2612  
museumofthegrandprairie.org  
Museum emphasizes local natural and cultural history and early settlement; the Prairie Stories exhibit has a Native American diorama that includes a time line and artifacts.

(9) **Chanute Air Museum**  
1011 Pacesetter Dr., Rantoul, IL 61866  
Mo-Sa 10AM-5PM  
May-Dec: Su 12-5PM  
217.893.1613  
aeromuseum.org  
The largest aerospace museum in Illinois also includes prehistoric stone tools found on the former Air Force base property, and private artifact collections.

(10) **Kennekuk County Park**  
Vermilion County Conservation District  
22296-A Henning Rd., Danville, IL 61834  
217.442.1691  
vccd.org  
Visitor Center has an artifact display and Native American history exhibit, and a self-guiding trail map notes the location of the Collins site, a Late Woodland/Mississippian period village and mound site investigated by University of Illinois archaeologists.

(11) **Vermilion County Museum**  
116 N. Gilbert St., Danville, IL 61832  
Tu-Sa 10AM-5PM  
217.442.2922  
vermilioncountymuseum.org  
Museum exhibits include a collection of locally collected chipped stone and ground stone tools.

(12) **Forest Glen Preserve**  
Vermilion County Conservation District  
20301 E. 900 North Rd., Westville, IL 61883  
Education Center Sun 1-4PM  
217.662.2142  
vccd.org/giforestglen.html  
Vermilion County Forest Preserve location has an exhibit with American Indians artifacts at the Gannett Outdoor Education Center.
(13) Illinois State Museum
502 S. Spring St., Springfield, IL 62706
Mo-Sa 8:30AM-5PM; Su 12-5PM
217.782.7386
museum.state.il.us
The Illinois State Museum has been telling the story of Illinois—its land, life, people, and art—since 1877 through research, educational programs and exhibits—those on Illinois archaeology feature life-sized dioramas depicting Native Americans from ancient times through the post-contact period.

(14) Lincoln Home National Historic Site
426 S. 7th St. (Visitor Center), Springfield, IL 62701
Daily: 8:30AM-5PM
217.492.4241
nps.gov/liho
In the four-block neighborhood of Abraham Lincoln’s family home, the Dean House and Arnold House have exhibits that include information from excavations at the National Historic Site.

(15) Rock Springs Nature Center
Macon County Conservation District
3939 Nearing Lane, Decatur, IL 62521
Mo-Fr 8AM-5PM, Sa 9AM-4:30PM, Su 1-4:30PM
217.423.7708
www.maconcounty-conservation.org
Natural history displays include an exhibit “Digging into the Past” on Illinois archaeology.

(16) Christian County Historical Society & Museum
Rts. 29 & 48 E, Taylorville, IL 61568
Apr-Dec: Th-Sa 10AM-3PM
Dec-Mar: Sa 10AM-3PM
217.824.6922
chistoricalsociety.blogspot.com/
Permanent exhibits include some locally collected Native American artifacts.

(17) Lake Shelbyville Visitor Center
Dam East Recreation area, Ill. Rte. 16, Shelbyville, IL 62565
Nov-Mar: Mon-Fri 9:30AM-4:30PM
Apr & Oct: Daily, 9:30AM-4:30PM
May-Sep: Sun-Thu 9:30AM-4:30PM
Fri & Sa 9:30AM – 6:30PM
217.774.3951
lakeshelbyville.com/attractions.htm
The visitor center has displays that include information on Native American sites in the Lake Shelbyville area.

(18) Lincoln Log Cabin State Historic Site
402 S. Lincoln Highway, Lerna, IL 62440
Nov-Mar: We-Su 9AM-4PM
Apr-May and Sep-Oct: We-Su 9AM-5PM
Memorial Day-Labor Day: 9AM-5PM daily
217.345.1845
lincolnlogcabin.org
86-acre site includes reconstructed cabin and 1840s living history farm; visitor center at Lincoln Log Cabin includes an exhibit “Reconstructing the Past,” about excavations prior to reconstruction.

(19) Fayette County Museum
301 W. Main, Vandalia, IL 62471
Mo-Sa 9:30AM-4PM; Apr-Dec: also Su 1-4PM
618.283.4866
vandaliaillinois.com/museum.html
Museum includes an American Indian exhibit.
(1) Piasa Bird Memorial
Ill. Rte. 100, 3 miles north of Alton, IL
greatriverroad.com/Cities/Alton/PiasaBird.htm
In 1673, Marquette and Jolliet observed
two monsters painted on the limestone
bluffs overlooking the Mississippi River;
the current image is reconstructed from
more recent lore.

(2) Lewis and Clark State Historic Site
1 Lewis & Clark Trail, Hartford, IL 60248
618.251.5811
May–Labor Day: Mo-Su 9AM-5PM
Labor Day–Apr: We-Su 9AM-5PM
campdubois.com
illinois.gov/ihpa/Experience/Sites/Southwest/Pages/Lewis-Clark.aspx
Lewis and Clark established a winter camp in December, 1803 near Hartford prior to starting their more than two-year journey of western exploration of the Louisiana Territory; gallery exhibits include a 55-foot full scale replica of their keel boat.

(3) South Roxana Mounds
South Roxana Park, Smith Street, South Roxana, IL
Two mounds that may date to the Middle to Late Woodland period are visible within the park.

(4) Madison County Historical Museum
715 N. Main St., Edwardsville, IL 62025
We–Fr 9AM-4PM; Su 1-4PM
618.656.7562
madisoncountyhistoricalmuseum.org
Exhibits in a restored 1836 home include Native American and pioneer artifacts.

(5) Horseshoe Lake State Park
3321 Highway 111, Granite City, IL 60240
museum.state.il.us/iaaa
The nearly 3,000-acre park area was inhabited by Native Americans as early as 10,000 years ago, and includes the Horseshoe Lake platform mound dating to the Mississippian period (AD 1000-1200).

(6) CAHOKIA COURTHOUSE
107 Elm St., Cahokia, IL 62206
Mar-Oct: Th-Sa 8AM-5PM
Nov-Feb: Th-Sa 9AM-4PM
618.332.1782
illinois.gov/ihpa/Experience/Sites/Southwest/Pages/Cahokia-Courthouse.aspx
Originally constructed by the French about 1740, the Cahokia Courthouse served as the center of political activity in the Northwest Territory in the late 18th century; WPA excavations in the 1930s are included in the courthouse exhibits.

(7) CAHOKIA MOUNDS
STATE HISTORIC SITE & INTERPRETIVE CENTER
30 Ramey St., Collinsville, IL 62234
May-Oct: Daily 9AM-5PM
Nov-Dec & Feb-Apr: We-Su 9AM-5PM
Jan: We-Su 9AM-4PM
Grounds, 8AM-dusk
618.346.5160
cahokia-mounds.org
A UNESCO World Heritage Site, Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site preserves 2,200 acres of the largest pre-contact American Indian community north of Mexico; the original site covered nearly 6 square miles, included 120 mounds and, at its peak around AD 1050-1150, had a population of 10-20,000 people of the Mississippian culture.

(8) EMERALD MOUND
Lebanon, IL vicinity
From Lebanon, take Ill. Rte. 4 north to Emerald Mound Road, turn east; mound is to the south.
A driver can loop around the mound by taking Emerald Mound Grange Road south, then Midgley-Neiss Road west, back to Ill. Rte. 4.
Owned by the State of Illinois, the largest of the three remaining Mississippian mounds in this group is a large flat-topped pyramid, about 20 feet high.

(9) FORT DE CHARTRES
STATE HISTORIC SITE
1350 Ill. Rte. 155,
Prairie du Rocher, IL 62277
Site is four miles west of Prairie du Rocher, IL on Ill. Rte. 155
We-Su 9AM-5PM
618.284.7230
ftdechartres.com
illinois.gov/ihpa/Experience/Sites/Southwest/Pages/Fort-de-Chartres.aspx
Visitors to the Peithman Museum, in the king’s storehouse at Fort de Chartres, will see on display many eighteenth-century archaeological artifacts relating to the French occupation of Randolph County.

(10) Modoc Rock Shelter
County Rte. 7, 2 mi SE of Prairie du Rocher
Listed on the National Register of Historic Places and a National Historic Landmark, the sandstone bluff at Modoc Rock Shelter provided shelter for Native American groups beginning shortly after the Ice Age, then continuing for almost 8,000 years.

(11) Fort Kaskaskia
State Historic Site
4372 Park Road, Ellis Grove, IL 62241
Daily 8AM-4PM
618.859.3741
illinois.gov/ihpa/Experience/Sites/Southwest/Pages/Fort-Kaskaskia.aspx
The 200-acre bluff-top park includes the remnants of a French earthen-work and timber fortification constructed in the mid-1700s.

(12) Randolph County Museum
1 Taylor St., Chester, IL 62233
Su, Mo, Th, Fr 12:30-3:30PM
618.826.2667
greatriverroad.com/stegen/randattractions.htm
Exhibits include Native American artifacts.

(13) Piney Creek Ravine
State Natural Area
c/o 4301 S. Lake Dr., Chester, IL 62233
West of DuQuoin and south of Steeleville on the Randolph-Jackson County line.
618.826.2706
dnr.state.il.us/Lands/landmgt/parks/R4/pcr.htm
Piney Creek Ravine contains the largest body of prehistoric rock art in Illinois, with almost 200 designs believed to date to the Late Woodland (AD 500-1000) and Mississippian (AD 1000-1550) periods occur within the ravine.

Archaeologists recording rock art at Piney Creek.
**Wabash River**

(1) **Ballard Nature Center**
5253 E. U.S. Highway 40, Altamont, IL 62411
Tu-Fr 8 AM-4PM; Sa noon-4PM
Summer, also open Mon & Sun
618.483.6856
ballardnaturecenter.org
Six miles of trails provide access to 210 acres of woodland, tallgrass prairie and wetlands; Nature Center displays include a collection of projectile points donated by longtime collector John William Warner.

(2) **Teutopolis Monastery Museum**
110 S. Garrett St., Teutopolis, IL 62467
Apr-Nov: 1st Su of month 12:30-4PM
217.857.3586
stfrancischurch.com/newsite/word
Within the museum, which features many books and artifacts related to Franciscan Friars during their novitiate year, is one room with displays related to local history, including some Native American material.

(3) **Hutson Memorial Village Museum**
One and a half miles south of Hutsonville on Outer South Rose Street. Hutsonville, IL 62433
Jun-Sep: Su 2-4PM
618.546.1557
www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilcchs/Articles/hutsonvillage.html
Museum includes five restored and recreated pioneer cabins, general store and barbershop, a barn, working outhouse, family cabin, log barn, and log church, recreating an 1812
EuroAmerican settlement; some American Indian artifacts are included in displays.

(4) **Newton Public Library District**  
100 S. Van Buren St., Newton, IL 62248  
Open during library hours  
618.783.8141  
newton.lib.il.us/  
Displays include some Native American artifacts.

(5) **Crawford County Historical Museum**  
408 S. Cross St., Robinson, IL 62454  
Sa-Su 2-4PM & by appointment  
618.544.3087  
rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilcchs/Museum, located in the former Schmidt Clinic building, has extensive displays of regional Wabash River valley material from both pre-contact Native American sites and pioneer-era sites, collected over several decades of archaeological investigations.

(6) **Fife Opera House**  
123 S Main St, Palestine, IL 62451  
Open for special events & by appointment  
618.586.9418  
www.fifeopera-house.org/  
Display of Palestine-area artifacts includes material from the Roy Mor-

(7) **Olney Carnegie Library /Carnegie Building Museum**  
401 E Main St., Olney, IL 62294  
Apr-Nov: Sun. 1-4PM  
618.395.1963  
richland-countymuseums.org  
Library houses many local artifacts, including Native American artifacts.

(8) **White County Historical Society**  
L. Haas Store Museum  
219 E. Main St., Carmi, IL 62801  
Open by appointment  
618.382.8425  
rootsweb.com/~ilwcohs/museums.htm  
Along with tools, photographs, and vintage clothing, the museum has the hanging tools of Phil Hanna, “the hangman,” and exhibits also include Native American artifacts.
(1) **CARLYLE LAKE VISITOR CENTER**
50 miles east of St. Louis, MO on US 50, Carlyle, IL 62231
Apr-end of May and Sep: Sa & Su 10AM-6PM
End of May - early Sep: Daily 10AM-6PM
618.594.5253
mvs.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/Carlyle-Lake/Recreation.aspx
Located at the southern end of the 26,000-acre lake, the visitor center has exhibits on the construction of the lake, natural history, and a display about area archaeology.

(2) **GENERAL JOHN A. LOGAN MUSEUM**
1613 Edith St., Murphysboro, IL 62966
Jun-Aug: Tu-Sa 10AM-4PM; Su 1-4PM
Sep-May: Tu-Su 1-4PM
618.684.3455
loganmuseum.org
The museum is located in the Christopher C. Bullar house; archaeological collections from a decade of excavations from the original Logan home are on display at the museum.

(3) **GIANT CITY STATE PARK**
235 Giant City Rd., Makanda, IL 62958
618.457.4836
dnr.state.il.us/lands/landmgt/parks/r5/gc.htm
Like the several other stone forts in southern Illinois, Giant City Stone Fort was constructed during the Late Woodland period, 1,400 to 1,200 years ago; interpretive signs can be found on one of the hiking trails.

(4) **THE POUNDS SITE**
The Rim Rock National Recreation Trail, a paved interpreted trail, includes signage for the Pounds site, which contains the remains of one of eleven Late Woodland stone forts located in the Shawnee Hills in southern Illinois.

5 Kaolin Pond
5 miles west of Cobden, IL
This archaeological site, managed by the USDA Forest Service, was the location of a mid 19th-century kaolin clay mine and village.

6 Union County Museum
117 N. Appleknocker Dr., Cobden, IL 62920
Sa-Su 1-5PM
618.893.2865
unioncountyilmuseum.com
Exhibits include American Indian artifacts from private collections from sites in Union County and southern Illinois; in addition, there are 19th-century pottery vessels from the Kirkpatrick family and Anna Pottery.

7 Millstone Bluff Archaeological Area
13 miles northeast of Vienna, IL
fs.usda.gov/recarea/shawnee/recreation/hiking/recarea/?recid=10689&actid=51
Millstone Bluff, a unique topographical feature rising 320 feet above the surrounding terrain, is the site of an unplowed prehistoric Mississippian village, stone box cemetery, and rock art site within the Shawnee National Forest.

8 Illinois Iron Furnace
Elizabethtown area
theshawneenationalforest.com/home/recreation-areas/ironfurnace-recreationarea
A 0.9-mile trail winding along the bottomland habitat of Big Creek includes a partially reconstructed 19th-century iron blast furnace.

9 Thebes Court House
Oak and 5th Streets, Thebes, IL 62990
Tours by appointment.
618.764.2658
thecourthouse.com
The 1845 courthouse, an impressive stone building overlooking the Mississippi River, houses a limited collection of prehistoric artifacts in the basement.

10 Fort Massac State Park
1308 E. 5th St., Metropolis, IL 62960
618.524.4712
dnr.state.il.us/lands/Landmg/PARKS/R5/fmindechtm
The visitor center at Fort Massac contains both ancient Native American artifacts and artifacts recovered from Fort Massac during 1939-42, 1966 and 1970 excavations.

11 Kincaid Mounds
Near Avery Lake, southeast of Unionville
illinois.gov/ihpa/Experience/Sites/Southeast/Pages/KincaidMounds.aspx
kincaidmounds.com
From an interpretive area and platform, visitors can view some of the mounds preserved at this Middle Mississippian period (A.D. 900-1500) fortified village and mound site, which once served as a link between settlements to the southeast and the metropolis of Cahokia to the west.

12 Customs House Museum
1400 Washington Ave., Cairo, IL 62914
Tu-Fr 10AM-noon, 1-3PM
618.734.9632
greatriverroad.com/meetohio/customshouse.htm
The Federal Customs House, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is a three story limestone building with collections that include prehistoric Native American artifacts.
The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) owns and manages more historic properties than any other state or local entity. We seek to fulfill an important mandate, to ensure the protection and interpretation of these significant historic properties located throughout Illinois. Some properties are listed in this guidebook, and you can go to dnr.illinois.gov/recreation/Pages/default.aspx to find information on all of the IDNR locations. The webpage dnr.illinois.gov/naturalresources/cultural/pages/programs.aspx outlines our programs, including cemetery preservation and National Register of Historic Places listings. Whether you are atop Starved Rock at the site of a 17th century French fort overlooking the Illinois River, or at the Pinney Creek Ravine Natural Area where people created symbolic rock art in the southern part of the State, significant archaeological sites offer visitors a unique opportunity to experience the past.

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency

Over a millions visitors come every year to the more than 70 sites managed by the Historic Sites Division of the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (HPA). Often they are not aware of the clues, the tangible links to a site’s past that lie within the land or water associated with the site they are visiting, but nearly all of them contain irreplaceable archaeological resources. HPA has an active set of stewardship programs to identify, protect and record our extensive archaeological heritage. Educational outreach includes special exhibits, public participation in field schools, and conferences on archaeology. Visit the IHPA web site: illinoishistory.gov to learn more about Illinois’ often hidden history– an amazing wealth of ethnic, social, and economic diversity.