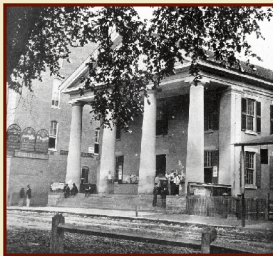


POLITICAL CAMPAIGNING IN 1858

QUINCY WAS IN A FESTIVE MOOD FOR THE ALL-DAY EVENT WITH bands, banners, and thousands of people in attendance.

Historian E. B. Long said, "It was a carnival time in Illinois. Mobs of thousands journeyed by wagon, horseback, boat and train to stand for more than three hours to witness the political 'spectacular' of the day." Quincyan Abraham Jonas, an old friend, introduced Lincoln for his opening remarks. A young boy, Ben Miller, jumped to the platform and sold two cigars to Douglas who smoked constantly while waiting to speak. Campaigns of the

frontier days involved "hell-for-leather" politics, extreme statements, sarcastic remarks, and slugging oratory. Although Lincoln and Douglas beseeched their followers for civility, applause, cheers, laughter, and shouting frequently interrupted the speakers. Both men baited the crowd to draw support. The *Whig and Republican* reported that in the last half-hour Lincoln gave Douglas one of the "severest skinnings" that he had received in the course of the debates. Historian Harold Holzer wrote, "The debate here degenerated into one of the nastiest of the campaign."



Courtesy of Historical Society of Quincy & Adams County

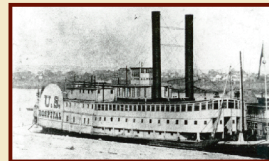
BUILT IN 1837, THE second Adams County

Courthouse was an imposing Grecian-columned structure, located on Fifth Street directly across from the public square, site of the sixth Lincoln-Douglas Debate. One of the offices on the ground floor was used by Stephen A. Douglas during the 1840's. The wide steps leading up to the courthouse were a common gathering point, especially during the Civil War. The courthouse partially burned in January 1875, leading to the building of a new courthouse on Jefferson Square.



LINCOLN ARRIVED IN QUINCY

the morning of the debate on the Burlington train from Macomb. A cheering crowd and a cannon salute greeted Lincoln upon his arrival at the Spring Street depot. Lincoln hoped to walk to the home of Orville and Eliza Browning, but he rode in a parade led by a model ship on wheels, drawn by four horses, and labeled "CONSTITUTION." Filled with sailors, the helm was managed by a live raccoon. Later, John Tillson, candidate for state



Courtesy of Marjory Library, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse

senator, presented Lincoln with flowers from the Republican ladies. Lincoln had dinner with friends before walking to the debate. Lincoln spent that night in the Browning home at Seventh and Hampshire, where he shook hands with throngs of well wishers from the front steps. The following day both Lincoln and Douglas boarded the imposing steamboat, *City of Louisiana*, for the seventh and final debate at Alton on October 15th.

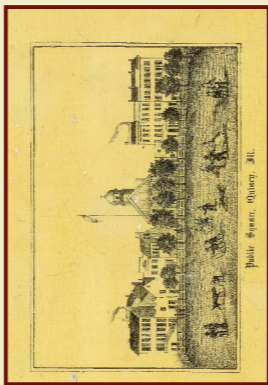
LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATE

ON OCTOBER 13, 1858, TWO CANDIDATES FOR U.S. SENATOR *met in this public square for a sixth debate.*

Quincy, in the west-central portion of the state, was a true battleground area where both candidates saw reasonable prospects of victory. Quincy had been Douglas' home district. Lincoln counted key local politicians as allies. Boatloads of Douglas supporters were recruited from Missouri to cheer on their favorite, while boatloads of Iowans traveled downriver to vigorously shout approval for Lincoln. Facing a crowd of nearly 15,000 people, the two

candidates debated with intellectual rigor what America ought to do about slavery, and in so doing they examined the meaning of democracy to nineteenth century America.

In Quincy the moral argument against slavery was powerfully stated when Lincoln pronounced his strongest stand yet against the institution stating, "*it is a moral, a social, and a political wrong . . .*" Douglas responded that slavery was not a moral issue and maintained that states "*. . . can exist forever divided into free and slave states. . .*"



Courtesy of American Society of Quincy & Adams County

TALL GRASSES covered the Square that was then enclosed by a double fence — the outer one a hitching rack for horses and wagons, with turnstiles to keep out roaming livestock, and the inner one a high board fence. In honor of the 150th Anniversary of the debate at Quincy, excerpts were engraved on the commemorative walls that now surround the Lorado Taft relief sculpture, which was dedicated in 1936. The six pairs of pro and con quotations focus on the issues central to the debate.



1852 1853 1854 1855 1856 1857 1858 1859 1860 1861 1862 1863 1864



Courtesy of Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library

Abraham Lincoln

LINCOLN WAS A SUCCESSFUL LAWYER WHOSE POLITICAL

career encompassed four terms in the state legislature and one term in the U.S. House. He retired from politics after service in Congress, but passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854 caused him to reverse that decision, as it permitted slavery in areas declared free since the Missouri Compromise of 1820. Douglas was running for a third term in the U.S. Senate. Douglas, assisted by Quincyan William A. Richardson, Chair of the House Committee on the Territories, guided the Kansas-Nebraska Act through Congress. Popular sovereignty, the hallmark of the act, allowed the territories to decide for themselves whether to be free or slave and put Douglas in direct conflict with Republicans over expansion of slavery. This fundamental difference underscored the most famous debate in American history.



Courtesy of Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library

Stephen A. Douglas

This exhibit was made possible through a generous gift from:
QUINCY EXCHANGE CLUB

LINCOLN'S 1854 VISIT



Courtesy of Historical Society of Quincy & Adams County

Construction of Orrin Kendall's building on the southwest corner of Sixth and Main was completed on October 5, 1852. The impressive three-story brick building housed his cracker and confectionery business in the basement and featured a large public hall the full size of the building (50' x 80') on the second floor. Meetings were held in Kendall Hall almost every evening in 1854 with politics at a fever pitch. Speakers on the Nebraska question included James W. Singleton, Orville H. Browning, and Lincoln. Lincoln's appearance in 1854 at this site was in support of the Congressional campaign of his long-time Quincy friend Archibald Williams.

ON NOVEMBER 1, 1854 AN INCENSED LINCOLN ATTACKED THE immorality of slavery in a speech at Kendall Hall. Lincoln was

awakened from a five-year political slumber by Douglas's Kansas-Nebraska Act, attacking it in a series of speeches in central Illinois in late 1854. Lincoln's Quincy friend Abraham Jonas invited him to address the Kansas-Nebraska question here on behalf of the Congressional candidacy of Archibald Williams. Jonas predicted a payoff to Lincoln politically. "Whigs would be much gratified if you could . . . pay us a visit while the little giant is here," Jonas wrote. "It is believed by all who know

you, that a reply from you, would be more effective, than from any other—I trust you may be able to pay us a visit and thereby create a debt of gratitude on the part of Whigs here . . ." Lincoln accepted, speaking to an enthusiastic crowd in Kendall Hall. He attacked slavery, former Quincyan Douglas, and the idea of popular sovereignty. Quincyans would hear similar themes when Lincoln returned four years later to debate Douglas, October 13, 1858.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1854

WHIG NOMINATION.

FOR CONGRESS,
ARCHIBALD WILLIAMS.

WHIG TICKET.

FOR SENATOR,
PETER B. GARRETT.

FOR REPRESENTATIVE,
WM. B. GOODING.

FOR SENATOR,
BENJ. M. PRENTISS.

FOR CONGRESS,
GEORGE ARMOR.

"WE NEVER CAN, AND NEVER WILL, AND NO EARNEST POWER WILL MAKE ME VOTE TO SPREAD SLAVERY OVER TERRITORY WHERE IT DOES NOT EXIST." *—HARRIS QUAY.*

"All the evidences of public opinion at that day seemed to indicate that this Compromise HAD BECOME ORDAINED IN THE HEARTS OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AS A SACRED THING WHICH NO RUTHLESS HAND SHOULD ATTEMPT TO DISTURB." *—GEO. A. DOUGLASS.*

Courtesy of Quincy Public Library

LINCOLN'S POLITICAL genius was demonstrated by his approach to an attempted political smear. During the 1860 presidential primary campaign, Abraham Jonas wrote Lincoln that local Democrat Isaac N. Morris was seeking affidavits from "certain Irishmen" that they saw Lincoln come out of a Quincy Know-Nothing Lodge. The Know-Nothing political party opposed immigration and election of Catholics to political office. Lincoln recognized that such a charge could cost him the vote of the large German and Irish population—and a denial, the vote of the Know-Nothings, who opposed slavery's extension. Lincoln told Jonas, "it must not publicly appear that I am paying any attention to the charge." He suggested that Jonas get affidavits from "respectable men who were always in the lodges and never saw me there." The play worked, and the matter never became public.

THE DAILY WHIG.

QUINCY, ILLINOIS.

J. T. MORTON & V. Y. BALSTON,
EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1856

The Loco-focos and the Know-Nothings.

"We have, for sometime past, been respecting a neutrality between the Douglasites and the Know-Nothings. It is true that Douglas denounces the Know-Nothings on the stump. It is true that the Douglas organs denounce the Know-Nothings. But it is equally true that Douglas and the Douglas papers are among the most hypocritical and inconsistent of created things. They denounce Know-Nothingism just to catch the foreign vote—"

Courtesy of Quincy Public Library



1851

1852

1853

1854

1855

1856

1857

This exhibit was made possible through a generous gift from:

KIRLINS, INC.

LINCOLN'S HONORED FRIEND

“ARCHIE WILLIAMS WAS ONE OF THE STRONGEST-MINDED AND CLEAREST-MINDED

men in Illinois” (A. Lincoln). Lincoln and his friend Archibald Williams had much in



Courtesy of Historical Society of Quincy & Adams County

Williams was considered one of Illinois' foremost attorneys and politicians for more than thirty years. Like Lincoln, Williams was less than handsome, causing a visitor who saw them together to ask, "Who . . . are those two ugly men?" A friend K. K. Jones, honoring Williams, described him as ". . . not an orator, but a thinker; a student, a cool, clear-headed lawyer. . . . He was a modest, unassuming, unselfish man."

common. Both were born in Kentucky and moved to Illinois, Williams coming to Quincy in 1829. Like Lincoln, Williams was self-educated and became a highly successful attorney. The two men served together in the state legislature as dedicated Whig politicians, Williams from 1832 to 1840. Williams was a United States District Attorney from 1849 to 1853. In 1854, he ran for the U.S. House of Representatives as an outspoken opponent of the recently passed Kansas-Nebraska Act. His opponent was Quincyman William A. Richardson, one of the architects of the bill, which repealed the Missouri Compromise. Williams ran as a Free-Soil candidate, committed to the non-expansion of slavery. Sharing this political philosophy, Lincoln made his first documented trip to Quincy in 1854 to speak in support of Williams' candidacy at Kendall Hall. Lincoln delivered a rousing speech condemning the Kansas-Nebraska Act and urged the election of Williams. Richardson narrowly defeated Williams in the election. Subsequently, Lincoln and Williams gravitated to the new Republican Party.

AS A LEGISLATOR IN 1836, Lincoln voted to elect Williams U. S.

Senator, and Lincoln spoke in Quincy on behalf of Williams' 1854 Congressional campaign. Both of Lincoln's endorsements failed. As president, Lincoln was finally able to reward his long-time friend, appointing Williams the first United States District judge of Kansas in 1861, one of Lincoln's first appointments after his Cabinet. Lincoln reportedly offered Williams a position on the U. S. Supreme

Death of Judge Williams.

The Hon. ARCHIBALD WILLIAMS, of Kansas, died this (Monday) morning at 4 o'clock, at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. C. H. Morton, on Sixth street. He has been ill for several weeks, but it was not until within a few days that his many friends gave up all hope of his recovery. His excellent abilities and long identification with the interests and politics of Quincy and Illinois deserve a better notice than we can prepare to-day, which must be our excuse for the omission.

—Since writing the above the following has been handed us by one who has known Judge Williams long and intimately.

We have lost a true friend, and the Bar one of its brightest ornaments. There were few better lawyers than ARCHIBALD WILLIAMS. He was not a quiet man, but his powers of analysis were unsurpassed. He thought with great clearness, and while not eloquent in the usual acceptance of that word, few could withstand the power of his reasoning. What he knew was always well and clearly known, and was well and clearly told. Honest, generous, kind-hearted to a fault, but very self-reliant and modest, none knew him well that did not love him.

Courtesy of Quincy Public Library

The younger members of the Bar found in him always a kind friend and teacher; the older men of the profession found him an antagonist worthy the skill of the best of the Bar.

Judge Williams was a self-taught, self-made man, and ever tried to improve his mental powers. When Quincy was a mere village, in the year 1819, he settled here, and commenced the practice of the law. He was afterward representative at various times in both branches of the Illinois Legislature, and was a distinguished member of the Constitutional Convention of 1849.

He was appointed by General Taylor U. S. States Attorney for the District of Illinois, and served in that capacity with great ability until the end of Mr. Fillmore's administration.

Electing Mr. Fremont, Mr. Williams, without solicitation on his part, and contrary to his own preference, was appointed United States District Judge for the State and District of Kansas, which State had just been admitted into the Union. He accepted the position and removed to Topeka, Kansas, in which place he has resided since the summer of 1861. Of feeble frame, his overworked mind overcame his bodily strength, and he passed away rapidly, in the vigor of his mental powers. We are left—his law partner. G.

Court, which Williams modestly declined as not being qualified. Serving as judge in Kansas, Williams was involved in sensitive negotiations with the resident Delaware Indians, helping to achieve their security. Lincoln authorized funds for purchase of Delaware Indian land and asked Senator Orville Browning of Quincy to help get Senate approval of the treaty. Williams, who died in 1863, enjoyed a thirty-year friendship with Lincoln.

1858

1859

1860

1861

1862

1863

1864



A QUINCY "COPPERHEAD"

**SINGLETON HAD SUCCUMBED
"HOOK AND LINE" TO THE DEMOCRATS,**
*stated Lincoln in 1854. He and
Quincyan James W. Singleton had*

been fellow Whigs and disciples of Henry Clay. They had campaigned together in 1848 during Whig Zachary Taylor's successful run for the presidency but parted ways in 1854 over the divisive Kansas-Nebraska Act. Lincoln embraced the Republicans, while Singleton cast his lot with Stephen A. Douglas and the Democrats. In the 1858 debates at Galesburg and Alton, Douglas cited Singleton as testifying that Lincoln had abandoned Henry Clay's principles,

siding with abolitionists. Recognizing Singleton's political expertise, Douglas appointed him to serve as a campaign manager in Douglas' unsuccessful bid for the 1856 Democratic presidential nomination and again in 1860 when Douglas was nominated but saw Lincoln elected President. Singleton declined a commission as a cavalry officer from Governor Richard Yates when the Civil War began. He led the "Peace Democrats" in Illinois and criticized the war. As the war progressed and casualties mounted, he became an increasingly strident opponent of the conflict, calling for a negotiated settlement, and earning himself the standing of a foremost "Copperhead."



Courtesy of Historical Society of Quincy & Adams County

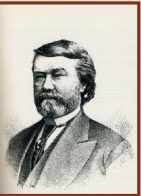
THE FLAGG & SAVAGE Building, located on this site, housed James W. Singleton's office when he was president of the Quincy and Toledo Railroad. Singleton practiced law in Mt. Sterling until 1854, then moved to Quincy. Commissioned Brigadier General in the Illinois Militia, he played a significant role in the Mormon War. Singleton served six terms in the state legislature and was twice elected to Congress after the Civil War. He was known for his fine horses and hospitality at his Quincy estate, Boscobel.



SINGLETON MAINTAINED
political contact with President Lincoln, though Singleton remained a dedicated Democrat. In 1862 he and fellow Quincyans Orville Browning and William Richardson gained Lincoln's help in reopening trade with Missouri, which the administration had banned. Unable to influence the choice of the 1864 Democrat candidate for President, Singleton met with Lincoln to discuss directions the administration would take if



Courtesy of Bremer Library, Quincy University



Courtesy of Historical Society of Quincy & Adams County

James W. Singleton

reelected. He later confided to Browning his meaningful role in Lincoln's reelection by rejecting the candidacy of Democrat George B. McClellan. Afterward, Singleton went to Richmond with Lincoln's approval and tried to secure Confederate support for reunion. He said, "My intercourse with [Lincoln] for the past six months has been so free, frequent and confidential that I was fully advised of all his plans, and thoroughly persuaded of the honesty of his heart and wisdom of his humane intentions."

1858 1859 1860 1861 1862 1863 1864 1865 1866 1867 1868 1869 1870

SEARCH FOR EQUALITY

“WHO SHALL SAY, I AM THE SUPERIOR, AND YOU ARE THE inferior?” asked Lincoln in July 1858. The Lincoln-Douglas

Debates focused on slavery. During the October 13th Quincy debate Lincoln affirmed: “. . . in the right to eat the bread without leave of anybody else which his own hand earns, he is my equal and the equal of every other man.” As President, Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation and advocated voting rights for African-Americans who fought for the Union. By the standards of his era his views on racial equality, evolving over time, were

progressive and changed American attitudes and culture. Lincoln endorsed women having the right to vote in 1836, a dozen years before the outset of the women’s suffrage movement. In the 1850’s he told a young woman who wanted to vote, “*I believe you will vote, before you are much older than I.*” Lincoln’s thirty-year friendship with Quincy’s Eliza Caldwell Browning exemplifies his view of women as equals. They shared an intellectual vigor and respect for one another’s ideas. Lincoln championed equality, believing that everyone was entitled to equal rights and protection under the Constitution.



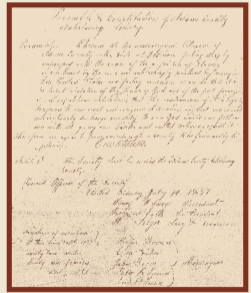
Courtesy of Historical Society of Quincy & Adams County

THE HOME OF Dr. Richard Eells, an abolitionist, symbolizes the key issue addressed by Lincoln and Douglas during their Quincy Debate. Built in 1835, it is the oldest brick house in Quincy and is a documented Underground Railroad station. It is located four blocks from the Mississippi River and was within sight of the debate. Ironically, Eells, who in April 1843 was convicted by Judge Stephen Douglas of helping a slave escape, was a distant cousin of Lincoln.



1852 1853 1854 1855 1856 1857 1858 1859 1860 1861 1862 1863 1864

HUNDREDS OF SLAVES ESCAPED across the Mississippi River from the slave state of Missouri to Quincy by way of the Underground Railroad. In 1839 sixty-five members chartered the Adams County Anti-Slavery Society, the first in Illinois. Credited with assisting more than 200 slaves, Dr. Richard Eells was caught helping a fugitive, Charlie, escape. Eells was bound over for trial by Justice of the Peace Henry Asbury in 1842. Circuit Court Judge Stephen A. Douglas of Quincy convicted Eells, fining him \$400 for



Historical Society of Quincy & Adams County

harboring a runaway slave. Eells became president of the Illinois Anti-Slavery Party in 1843 and a candidate for the Liberty Party in the 1844 presidential election. Although he died before his case reached the U. S. Supreme Court, Eells’s attorneys, including William Seward and Salmon Chase—future members of President Lincoln’s cabinet—carried his case through the nation’s highest Court, though to an unfavorable verdict.

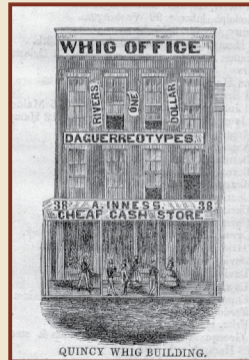
LINCOLN'S FRIEND JOHNSTON

QUINCY LAWYER AND NEWSPAPER EDITOR ANDREW

*Johnston became acquainted
with Abraham Lincoln in the*

Illinois Legislature where Lincoln served as representative and Johnston as assistant clerk. Like Lincoln, a Whig, Johnston was a law partner of Lincoln favorite Archibald Williams of Quincy. They later became more closely associated through the medium of poetry. Johnston called upon Lincoln's law partner, John Todd Stuart, in 1841 to help Johnston's nephew George Pickett win an appointment to West Point. Pickett was admitted, perhaps

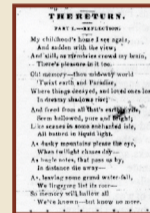
with Lincoln's influence. Pickett later won fame as the Confederate General who led "Pickett's Charge" at Gettysburg. Johnston left Quincy in the 1850's, returning to Richmond, Virginia. At the end of the Civil War, Johnston made two requests of Lincoln. In early 1865 President Lincoln granted Johnston's appeal to exchange a Confederate relative held as a prisoner. Johnston tried unsuccessfully to see Lincoln while he was in Richmond at the close of the war, learning later that Lincoln had asked about him. In an April 11 letter, Johnston asked Lincoln for a letter of protection for his family. Lincoln was assassinated three days later.



Courtesy of Historical Society of Quincy & Adams County

THE QUINCY WHIG

building was situated on the west side of Washington Square. Its second floor offices were often the center of activities for Quincy's Whig, later Republican, patriots and visiting political colleagues. When Andrew Johnson and Nebemiah Bushnell, both lawyers and loyal Whigs, established the newspaper in 1838, they followed the day's journalistic custom to be respectful of matters but to show no such courtesy for the political opposition. The Whig often bitterly opposed the Democratic message of the rival newspaper, The Quincy Herald.



Courtesy of Quincy Public Library

JOHNSTON RECEIVED SEVERAL LETTERS FROM

Lincoln from 1846-1847. "Friend Johnston," as Lincoln regularly addressed him, had acted as a literary advisor for others. While exchanging letters about poetry, Lincoln told Johnston he had written some poetry—or "doggerel," as he called it—about a return to Spencer County, Indiana, where he had grown up, where a classmate had become insane, and where his mother and sister were buried. Lincoln agreed to Johnston's request to publish the poetry and noted that he was "not at all displeased." The two poems, "My Childhood Home I See Again" and "The Maniac," appeared in the May 5, 1847, issue of the Quincy Whig. To avoid the risk of ridicule, Lincoln asked Johnston to publish his poetry anonymously. Johnston complied. "The Bear Hunt" was later published in the Richmond Evening News after Johnston returned to Virginia.

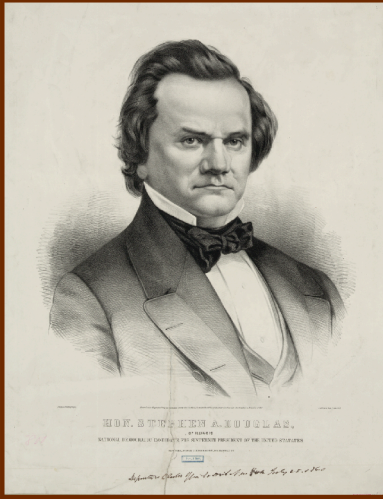


Courtesy of Library of Congress

Abraham Lincoln

This exhibit was made possible through a generous gift from:
FRIEND OF THE CITY OF QUINCY

QUINCY'S JUDGE DOUGLAS



Courtesy of Library of Congress

Stephen A. Douglas was called Judge Douglas in his adopted town of Quincy—and by Lincoln during the debates. Douglas earned the nickname “The Little Giant” for his political acumen. Standing 5’4,” he was the most powerful Democrat and legislator when the Legislative Branch of the Federal Government was the most influential. The Compromise of 1850 that he brokered helped preserve the Union for nearly a decade.

**“HIS NAME FILLS THE NATION;
AND IS NOT UNKNOWN, EVEN IN FOREIGN
lands” (A. Lincoln, 1856).
Stephen A. Douglas, a Jacksonian**

Democrat, arrived in Quincy in 1841, at twenty-seven the youngest Supreme Court Judge in Illinois history. In 1843 he defeated Quincy Whig Orville H. Browning for the U.S. House of Representatives, and became chairman of the powerful House Committee on the Territories. He later held the same post in the U. S. Senate, to which the Illinois legislature elected him in 1846. With a state-wide constituency, he moved to Chicago. Douglas seemed unstoppable. Comparing the careers of Douglas and himself in 1856, Lincoln stated, “*With me the race of ambition has been a failure—a flat failure; with him it has been one of splendid success.*” Disturbed by Douglas’ 1854 Kansas-Nebraska Act, which he believed would spread slavery, Lincoln in 1858 challenged Douglas for his Senate seat. Douglas returned to Quincy, October 13, 1858, for his sixth debate with Republican Lincoln. Douglas won the Senate contest. But, in the Presidential contest two years later, he lost to Lincoln.

DOUGLAS COURTED THE MORMONS. As Illinois Secretary of State in 1840,

Douglas certified a liberal charter for the City of Nauvoo, making the new Mormon community virtually autonomous. Lincoln voted for the charter as a member of the Illinois Legislature. Both parties courted Nauvoo’s large new electorate. Never one to miss a political opportunity, Douglas wrote a bill increasing the number of Illinois Supreme Court justices, then had himself appointed justice in Quincy’s Fifth Judicial District, which



Courtesy of Historical Society of Quincy & Adams County

included the new voters in Nauvoo. During the 1843 Congressional race, Douglas sought Mormon support. After clashes between Mormons and their neighbors in 1845, Congressman Douglas returned from Washington to help resolve the impasse that had led to Joseph Smith’s death and turmoil in Hancock County. He helped negotiate the plan which moved the Mormons to Deseret (Utah). Afterward, the Quincy Rifle Company, shown in Washington Square, went to Hancock County to keep the peace.

1838

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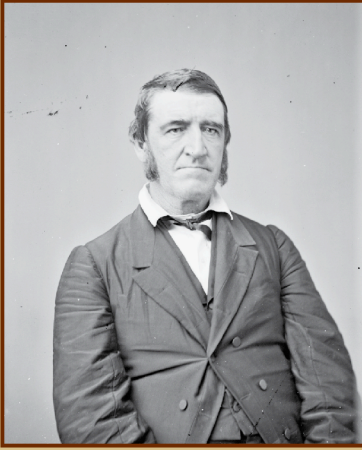
1843

1844



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DOUGLAS' DISCIPLE



Courtesy of Library of Congress

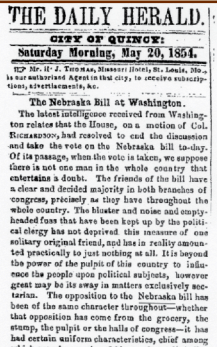
Political opponents William A. Richardson and Lincoln had close ties. In early 1860 Lincoln invited Richardson to sculptor Leonard Volk's Chicago studio to view the life mask being made of Lincoln. Volk recounted the two amused each other with pleasant reminiscences. During the Civil War, Lincoln recommended Richardson for Brigadier General. Richardson declined. Richardson scarcely warranted the "Copperhead" label sometimes attributed to him—he never wavered from being pro-Union.

**"I REGARD [RICHARDSON] AS ONE
OF THE TRUEST MEN THAT EVER LIVED;
he sticks to judge Douglas through
thick and thin" (A. Lincoln, 1860).**

Douglas composed the 1854 Kansas-Nebraska Act. William A. Richardson, another Quincyan and Douglas' political disciple, facilitated its passage through the turbulent U. S. House of Representatives. This bill opened to slavery an area guaranteed free since the Missouri Compromise, leading to the formation of the Republican Party and Lincoln's return from political retirement. Douglas and Richardson's names were interwoven in early Illinois politics. Richardson benefited in 1835 from a bill drafted by Douglas to have the legislature appoint states attorneys. As did Douglas, Richardson won the position in his district, beating Whig candidate Orville H. Browning of Quincy. Although a Whig, Legislator Abraham Lincoln voted for Richardson. Richardson led Douglas' unsuccessful campaign for the presidency in 1860. Upon the death of Douglas in 1861, Richardson, the second most powerful Illinois Democrat, was disappointed when Republican Governor Richard Yates appointed Browning to the U. S. Senate. Two years later, Richardson was elected to the Senate, opposing Lincoln, conscription, and emancipation.

QUINCYANS PASSED THE KANSAS

Nebraska Bill based on Douglas' principle of popular sovereignty. With the nation moving westward, the U. S. House and the Senate Committees on the Territories were considered in 1854 among the most important. Richardson in the House and Douglas in the Senate—both from Quincy—chaired the two committees. Each introduced bills in 1853 to organize Nebraska, Douglas' written to appease Southerners by repealing the Missouri Compromise. Based on popular



Courtesy of Quincy Public Library

sovereignty, the bill allowed each new state to decide the slavery issue. The Senate approved. The House debated it for days. Richardson, with Douglas working the House floor, ultimately passed the Kansas-Nebraska Act. The *Quincy Herald*, a Democratic paper, praised the Bill and the role played by Richardson, stongly criticizing the opponents. Richardson was later appointed the first governor of the Nebraska Territory by President Buchanan.

1851

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1855

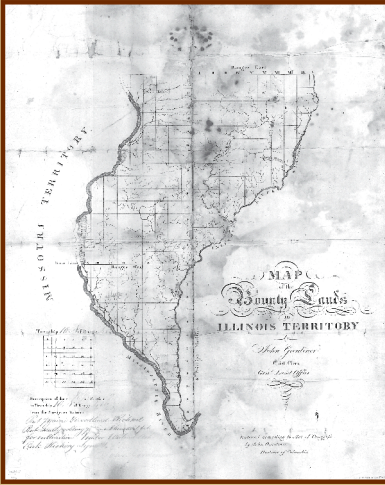
1856

1857



This exhibit was made possible
through a generous gift from:
**COUNTY MARKET /
NIEMANN FOODS FOUNDATION**

LINCOLN'S QUINCY



Courtesy of Historical Society of Quincy & Adams County

In May 1812, Congress set aside five million acres between the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers as bounty for veterans of the War of 1812. Settlement in the Military Tract began in 1816, and a federal Land Office opened in Quincy to record titles. The tract brought to Quincy men who became some of Illinois' foremost attorneys, politicians, and Lincoln friends, including Asbury, Browning, Jonas, Singleton, and Williams.

WITH A POPULATION OF NEARLY 13,000 IN 1858, QUINCY WAS THE ADAMS

*County seat and the third largest city
in Illinois. Quincy boasted a strong,*

growing economy based on its transportation, milling, pork packing, and light industry. In 1853 the city was designated an international port with its own custom house. Its population had migrated from both Northern and Southern states, including an influx of German and Irish immigrants and a small community of African-Americans. This diversity provoked strong, differing emotions regarding the expansion of slavery, the political issue of the day. During Lincoln's visit for the Great Debate, he saw railroad-riverboat linkage through Quincy that within three years made Quincy the Union Army's gateway to the South. Thousands of President Lincoln's troops boarded trains and riverboats on their way to battle, and many returned for care in Quincy's five military hospitals. Quincy's citizens helped quell unrest in northeast Missouri during the Civil War. Among their actions to aid the Union and Quincy's commerce with the border state, Quincy's Home Guard protected the railroad hub at Palmyra and a cannon factory at Hannibal.

AN IMPORTANT PORT AND

railroad hub, Quincy was located across the Mississippi River from the slave state of Missouri. As a transportation center, it was a gateway to the South, which led to the city becoming a mustering and training center for troops. Many units started here, including the famous 29th Colored Infantry. Troops trained in a number of camps in Quincy, including Camp Wood at Twelfth and Elm. The city also became a provisioning center for western troops. Some



Courtesy of Historical Society of Quincy & Adams County

riverboats became hospital boats, including the *City of Louisiana*, which earlier had transported Lincoln and Douglas to Alton after the Quincy debate and later became the *R. C. Wood*. Five military hospitals in Quincy treated wounded and sick soldiers. Women volunteers from two organizations, Needle Pickets and Sisters of the Good Samaritan, provided supplies, care, and moral support.

1855

1856

1857

1858

1859

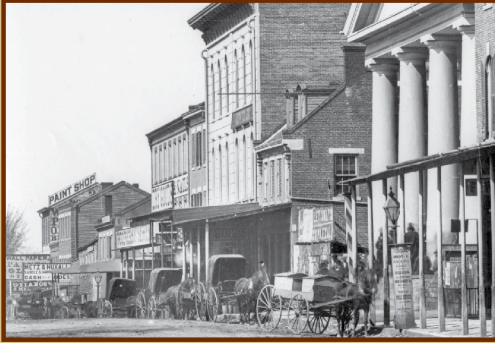
1860

1981



This exhibit was made possible
through a generous gift from:
**COUNTY MARKET /
NIEMANN FOODS FOUNDATION**

DOWNTOWN QUINCY IN 1858



Courtesy of Historical Society of Quincy & Adams County

Abraham Lincoln saw the vibrant commercial district around Quincy's public square as he stood on the wooden platform erected for the sixth debate. Behind him on Fifth Street was the colonnaded Greek Revival Adams County courthouse. Just north and on the corner, Republican friends Abraham Jonas and Henry Asbury occupied one of seven law offices on the square. Looking over the crowd, Lincoln saw the Daily Whig and Republican, the only three-story building on the square's west side and the elegant Quincy House hotel on the southwest corner. Across the streets from the square on all sides, irregular wooden awnings juttied out from the stores.

SIXTEEN DAYS OF RAIN HAD LAID A COAT OF MUD OVER THE *macadam streets that wrapped the city's square.*

Called the “Model City” because of its beautiful setting on the bluffs, Quincy in 1858 occupied about five square miles within its corporate limits. Its largest manufacturing establishments were built on the shore of Quincy Bay, near the bustling waterfront and the station for the recently completed Quincy and Chicago Railroad. Washington Square was located three blocks uphill. Surrounding it were fifty-six buildings, ranging from single-story frame structures to three-story brick edifices packed with businesses on every level. The square offered dry goods, groceries,

clothes, hats, shoes, jewelry, land offices, banks, insurance, rail ticketers, hardware, furniture, doctor, dentist, pharmacist, photographer, music and dance studios, and saloons—ninety-eight businesses in all. With rapid growth due to the railroad, new buildings were being erected to keep pace with demand. Sidewalks in downtown Quincy were paved with brick. Macadamized streets had been laid, and street lights had been converted from oil to gas. Yet Quincy on debate day still lacked the amenities of a finished commercial district.

WITH ITS BOOMING POPULATION, land sales and commerce, Quincy deserved a grand hotel. In 1838 John Tillson, a land company agent, opened the Quincy House on the southeast corner of Fourth and Maine. Judged the most elegant hotel between Cincinnati and St. Louis, it soon became the social and commercial center of early Quincy. Stephen A. Douglas maintained a room there during part of the time he lived in Quincy. He later stayed at the Quincy House on



Courtesy of Historical Society of Quincy & Adams County

occasion, including before and after his debate with Lincoln. Lincoln's stay at the Quincy House followed his address at Kendall's Hall in 1854 on behalf of Archibald Williams. On April 15, 1865, the manager of the Quincy telegraph station delivered news of Lincoln's assassination to former Governor John Wood at the Quincy House. From there, word spread to a stunned and heartbroken community.

1855

1856

1857

1858

1859

1860

1861



STEAMBOATS AND RAILROADS

LINCOLN TRAVELED TO QUINCY BY STAGECOACH IN 1854

after crossing the Illinois River at Naples. Lincoln's first

documented visit was to support the Congressional candidacy of Archibald Williams and to attack the Kansas-Nebraska Act and its author, Stephen A. Douglas. Yet Lincoln and Douglas held similar views on the importance of transportation. As fellow legislators in the 1836-37 Illinois General Assembly, both had included Quincy in bills to promote transportation in Illinois. Both believed Quincy, the state's westernmost community, was the right place for a

new railroad hub. Lincoln and Douglas traveled by train to Quincy for the 1858 debate. Illinois' miles of track had nearly doubled during that decade, and both Senate candidates traveled often by rail. Douglas used a lavish private car provided by the Illinois Central Railroad; Lincoln a common coach. The day after the Quincy debate they boarded the *City of Louisiana* steamboat for their final debate in Alton. Lincoln returned by train to Quincy in 1859, twice headed for Council Bluffs (Iowa), crossing the river by ferry, and once returning from Hannibal after doing legal work for the Illinois Central Railroad.



Courtesy of Historical Society of Quincy & Adams County

THE QUINCY AND CHICAGO Depot at Front and Oak, Quincy's first train station, welcomed the candidates for the Lincoln-Douglas Debate in 1858. Douglas arrived by private train the evening before and Lincoln on the regular Burlington train from Macomb that morning. The railroad line from Chicago to Quincy, later called the CB&Q, had been completed one year earlier. The depot was replaced in 1864 by a new station at Front and Vermont. This sketch is taken from a bird's-eye-view map of Quincy, circa 1859.



1852 1853 1854 1855 1856 1857 1858 1859 1860 1861 1862 1863 1864

QUINCY OWED ITS EXISTENCE to the river. Located on the Mississippi, Quincy had ideal docking conditions for steamboats and soon became a doorway to the West. In 1835 about twenty-five steamboats arrived at the Quincy wharf. By 1841 the number grew to nearly 1,200. Thousands of bushels of corn, potatoes, wheat, oats, beans, and barrels of pork were shipped from Quincy's port. Wheat milled rose from 20,000 bushels in



Courtesy of Historical Society of Quincy & Adams County

1835 to 275,000 bushels in 1841. By 1853 Quincy became a port of entry, and boats brought foreign goods. The coming of the railroad in 1857 gave farms better access to the river and linked Quincy to the east. The completion of the Quincy and Palmyra Railroad also in 1857 gave Quincy rail access to the west. Commerce and population grew together, and Quincy became the third largest city in Illinois during the 1850's.

TRI-STATE BUSINESS CENTER

QUINCY'S BREWERS AND BRICK MAKERS, CONTRACTORS AND *coopers, foundry and factory workers, and diverse other*

tradesmen made this Mississippi River community an important center of commerce in Lincoln's day. Quincy's businessmen, whose enterprises attracted business from Missouri, a slave state, and Iowa, a free state, had learned discretion in their sentiments about slavery. Their businesses flourished. The demand by other regions for Quincy's produce and products had grown so great by 1853 that the Congress made Quincy a federal port. When restrictions on Quincy's trade with Missouri were imposed in 1862 by

President Lincoln's administration to weaken the South's Civil War effort, three of Quincy's Lincoln friends urged the president to relax the limitations. Lincoln agreed to the request by U.S. Senator Orville Hickman Browning, Congressman William A. Richardson, and James W. Singleton. Within days of their visit, cross-river traffic resumed. Quincy industries supported the war effort with local foundries producing cannons and carriages and some stores selling military hardware. A new industry emerged in Quincy during the war when Missouri tobacco, whose shipments elsewhere had been blocked by Lincoln, was brought here for tobacco products manufacturing.



Historical Society of Quincy & Adams County

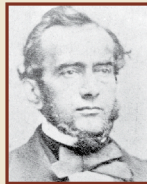
ALLEN COMSTOCK started Quincy's first stove foundry in 1846 on Front Street south of Delaware, and Quincy became one of the first western towns to engage in the stove industry. His business flourished with the small works growing into the large Phoenix Stove Foundry, one of the best in the country. By 1855, A. Comstock & Co. was producing 9,000 stoves a year. Timothy Castle came to Quincy in 1859, purchased an interest in the foundry, and changed the name to Comstock, Castle & Co.



1840 1841 1842 1843 1844 1845 **1846** 1847 1848 1849 1850 1851 1852

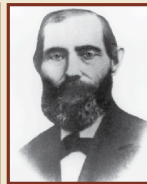
LONG-SNOUDED HOGS RAN

like deer in the river bottoms, remembered Henry Asbury in his *Reminiscences of Quincy*. Nathaniel Pease established a pork-packing plant at the foot of Broadway in 1834. Quincy became one of the nation's leading pork-packers after men like Pease bought hogs and sold pork to distant markets. In 1847 Quincy packing houses sent the meat of more than 20,000 hogs, averaging 250 pounds each, to hungry markets. Steamboats and railroads facilitated Quincy's commerce. Western expansion also lifted its



Courtesy of Comstock-Castle Stove Company

Allen Comstock



Courtesy of Knapheide Manufacturing Company

Heinrich Knapheide

growing land-based trade. By mid-century Quincy had become a manufacturing powerhouse. In 1848 German emigrant Heinrich Knapheide began making wagons. Local foundries, including the Quincy Foundry at the corner of Front and Spring, melted metal for manufacturers of farm implements and castings. Others engaged in milling, brewing, distilling, carriage- and cabinet-making, machining, warehousing, and tobacco processing.

FRONTIER ILLINOIS

RIVERS BROUGHT JOHN WOOD AND ABRAHAM LINCOLN TO THEIR Illinois destinations. During an 1821 boat trip up the Mississippi,

Wood envisioned a settlement on the limestone bluff rising one-hundred feet above the river's east bank. He returned the next year to build a single-room log cabin, Quincy's first dwelling, in "Bluffs." In 1825 the state legislature created "Adams County." The town was named "Quincy" to honor President John Quincy Adams. A decade later, Lincoln navigated central Illinois' Sangamon River and settled in the fledgling community of New Salem. Both men understood the importance of rivers to frontier

commerce. And like other settlers, they saw their region's bounteous timber as a sign of rich soil and stock for building cabins and towns. Similarly, both Wood and Lincoln enlisted with local militia in April 1832 to protect the Illinois frontier during the Black Hawk War. Both hated slavery, but neither was an abolitionist. The two Whigs shared belief in government-assisted economic growth, including internal improvements. Progressing from first settler to first citizen, Wood was an active politician, rising from town trustee to Illinois governor. In his friend Lincoln, Wood found another Whig with even greater political aspirations.



Courtesy of Historical Society of Quincy & Adams County

JOHN WOOD'S first home in Quincy

"was a log cabin of the most primitive sort, 20 by 18 feet in size, built without the use of a single nail, a stranger to the aristocracy of 'sawed lumber,' clay chinked, with puncheon floor, rough stone fire place and chimney built of sticks bedaubed with clay." *John Tillson, another early settler, further noted that the dwelling stood on the southeast corner of Front and Delaware, facing west. Wood later built three homes near 12th and State.*



1816

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1823

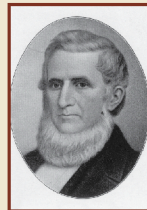
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1827

1828

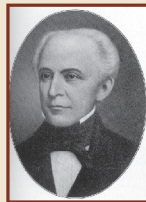


Courtesy of Historical Society of Quincy & Adams County

John Wood

QUINCY FOUNDER JOHN WOOD JOINED THE STRUGGLE

of Governor Edward Coles in 1824 against a proposal to rewrite Illinois' Constitution to allow slavery. French settlers had brought slavery to the Illinois Territory. Soon after it was established, the State of Illinois enacted "Black Laws," which restricted rights for anyone who was not white. Within five years, many of the state's settlers — most of them from the South — sought to introduce slavery outright in Illinois. Like most New Englanders migrating into the prairie state, John Wood abhorred the institution and with Coles fought it vigorously. Wood rallied voters from Montebello, near today's Nauvoo in Hancock County, to Atlas in Pike County against the proposed constitutional convention. The convention proposal lost by a large margin. Wood was always proud of his effort, which helped end the movement to legalize slavery in Illinois.



Courtesy of Historical Society of Quincy & Adams County

Edward Coles

This exhibit was made possible through a generous gift from:

MR. & MRS.
RONALD J. VECCHIE

HIS FRIENDS REST HERE



Courtesy of Historical Society of Quincy & Adams County

Woodland is Quincy's oldest active cemetery. Plotted in 1846 by John Wood on land he would provide the city, Woodland Cemetery is the final resting place of Wood, Quincy's founder, who also was the twelfth governor of Illinois. The cemetery is unique in that it preserves the topography found here when settlers first arrived and when Lincoln visited Quincy. Located on its grounds were a Civil War hospital and the U.S. National Military Cemetery of Quincy, established in 1868 in the northwest portion of the grounds. Woodland contains the graves of many of Quincy's pioneers, cholera victims, abolitionists, soldiers, and leaders—including many of state and national historical significance.

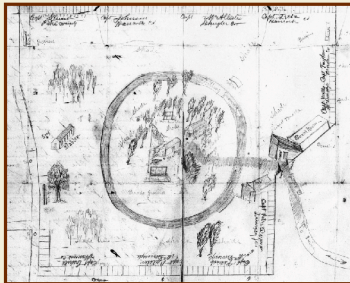
**“HERE, TOO, THE FATHER OF THE TOWN, WITH OTHER MEN OF LARGE
renown, are gathered by that reaper stern, who cuts down each**

and all in turn” (Henry Asbury, *Reminiscences of Quincy, Illinois*). Referring to the leaders from an earlier time, resting on the bluffs overlooking the Mississippi River, Asbury thus addressed in poetry the historical significance of Woodland Cemetery. The cemetery contains the graves of many of Lincoln's personal and political friends, including notables such as Asbury, Nehemiah Bushnell, Orville and Eliza Browning, Jackson Grimshaw, William A. Richardson, and Archibald Williams. Asbury, Bushnell, Orville Browning, Grimshaw, and

Judge Williams all practiced law and knew Lincoln from the early days. The longest female friendship in Lincoln's life was with Eliza Caldwell Browning whose gravestone records their thirty-year friendship. Asbury, Bushnell, Browning, Grimshaw, and Wood joined Lincoln in helping to found the Republican Party in Illinois and, later, forwarded his cause in gaining the presidency. Richardson was an early ally who split politically with Lincoln but remained a friend. Here, too, lie many of Lincoln's soldiers.

THOUSANDS OF PRESIDENT

Lincoln's troops trained or were quartered in Quincy. The first army camp, one of three named Camp Wood, was located just east of Woodland Cemetery on the Adams County fair grounds. The Sixteenth Illinois Regiment, with many well-known local citizens, including their future commander General James Morgan, was organized and mustered into service here in May 1861. The camp was irregular in its formation



Courtesy of Historical Society of Quincy & Adams County

with headquarters being in the center and the ten companies scattered on either side along the outer limit. Dr. William Githens, first assistant surgeon, drew this diagram of the camp on the back of a letter. Eight additional units mustered in at this camp during the Civil War. Many soldiers who left from Quincy camps returned on riverboats to be cared for in Quincy's five military hospitals, one located in Woodland Cemetery.

1843

1844

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1848

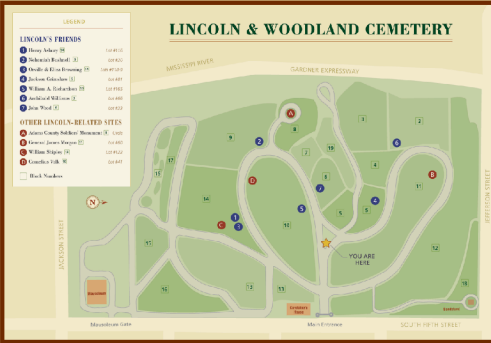
1849



This exhibit was made possible through a generous gift from:

MR. & MRS.
RONALD J. VECCHIE

A VICTORIAN CEMETERY



This Woodland Cemetery map shows the location of the graves of many of Abraham Lincoln's Quincy friends as well as several other sites related to Lincoln. Although a significant number of his friends are buried in Woodland, the graves of others are located elsewhere. Abraham Jonas is interred in the Valley of Peace Jewish Cemetery on North 30th Street in Quincy, and Stephen A. Douglas is buried in Chicago. Andrew Johnston's and James Singleton's graves are located in Virginia. Most of these friends are described in greater detail in other Looking for Lincoln wayside exhibits in Quincy.

Courtesy of Quincy's Lincoln Bicentennial Commission

“WOODLAND CEMETERY—THE NECROPOLIS THAT IN LIFE

[Cornelius Volk] did so much to beautify and make attractive”

(Quincy Daily-Herald, 1898). Among significant historical Woodland memorials are the gravestones of Orville and Eliza Browning, Abraham Lincoln's closest Quincy friends. The couple rest beside their stillborn son and foster daughter Emma Lord Skinner. Foster son Lt. William Shipley, 27th Illinois Infantry, was the first Quincy Civil War soldier lost in battle. Killed in Missouri's Battle of Belmont on November 7, 1861, he is buried nearby. Woodland contains the Memorial Monument to Adams County Civil War soldiers sculpted

by Quincyan Cornelius Volk, brother of Chicago sculptor Leonard Volk, who sculpted Lincoln's life mask and hands. The Sisters of the Good Samaritan, a soldier's support group, financed the erection of the memorial. The monument's shaft is crowned by an American eagle looking south and east over a preserved Union. Cornelius Volk also created a monument for Lincoln's colleague, Archibald Williams, with the inscription, “erected by the Bar of Adams County in memory of our brother.”



Courtesy of Quincy's Lincoln Bicentennial Commission

ONE OF THE MOST SIGNIFICANT Victorian cemeteries in the Midwest, Woodland Cemetery's elaborate variety of markers and memorials reflects the rich heritage of Quincy. The pages of community history are recorded here in three-dimensional artifacts often depicted with Victorian symbols. Beyond the writing, these gravestones reflect community development, trade patterns, technological advancement, tragedies, theological evolution, and changing artistic tastes. It is history in stone. Situated on the bluffs overlooking the Mississippi River, the public park or “garden cemetery” setting typified Victorian burial grounds. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2002, Woodland is a prime example of the rural cemetery movement of the nineteenth century.



Courtesy of Quincy's Lincoln Bicentennial Commission

1858

1859

1860

1861

1862

1863

1864



POLITICAL ALLIES

ABRAHAM LINCOLN AND JOHN WOOD SHARED SIMILAR

political views. Both were members of the Whig Party

and were strongly allied against slavery. Lincoln and Wood worked to establish the Republican Party, and each campaigned for the other's cause during their political careers. Lincoln was a delegate at the 1856 Bloomington Convention, which launched the Republican Party in Illinois and led to Wood's nomination for Lieutenant Governor. In 1857 Lincoln and Wood helped finance publication of the *Missouri Democrat*, a Republican

newspaper in St. Louis, thus promoting its circulation in downstate Illinois. John Wood was among the local Republican leaders who met with Horace Greeley, editor of the influential *New York Tribune*, who was in Quincy in December 1858 to give a speech. During this meeting Lincoln's name was put forth as a possible presidential candidate. Upon the death of Governor William H. Bissell in March 1860, Lieutenant Governor John Wood became Governor. On May 22, 1860, he invited Lincoln, then presidential candidate, "*to take and use the [governor's office] at your pleasure.*" Lincoln used it as his presidential campaign headquarters.



Courtesy of Historical Society of Quincy & Adams County

JOHN WOOD'S STONE octagonal mansion was created by Chicago architect John Van Osdel, designer of the Springfield governor's mansion. The house was constructed on the north side of State Street between 11th and 12th while Wood served as governor and during the Civil War. Costing well over \$100,000, a princely sum for the time, it was regarded as one of the finest homes in Illinois. Wood sold it in 1875 and returned to his previous home, now preserved as the Governor John Wood Mansion.



1854 1855 1856 1857 1858 1859 1860 1861 1862 1863 1864 1865 1866

JOHN WOOD, QUINCY'S FOUNDER, came west from Moravia, New York in 1818 and settled in the Illinois Military Tract. In 1822 he built a log cabin near the Mississippi River, becoming Quincy's first settler. Wood's many years as a civic and political leader included terms as mayor of Quincy, state senator, lieutenant governor, and governor, upon the death of William Bissell. Wood's friendship with Lincoln brought him an appointment as an Illinois delegate to the Peace Convention



Courtesy of Historical Society of Quincy & Adams County

Governor John Wood

in Washington, D. C. in February 1861. Wood volunteered in the 1832 Black Hawk War and served as Quartermaster General of Illinois during the Civil War. Lincoln supported Wood by granting arms requests and by providing a mustering office in Springfield. Wood left Quincy in June 1864 at the head of the 137th Illinois Infantry, a "*one hundred day volunteers*" unit, and was soon given command of the Third Brigade.

QUINCY'S EARLY ENVIRONMENT

TIMBERED HILLS, TALL PRAIRIE GRASSES, RAVINES, CREEKS, and springs were prominent features of Quincy in Lincoln's

time. Originally called "Bluffs," the town grew along the Mississippi's east bank and on the heights above. The limestone cliff was highest near Second and Main with Mount Pisgah rising more than 125 feet above the river. In the early days the only level spot was the public square, which was covered with prairie grasses, hazel brush, and one tree. Springs were prevalent with the largest flowing through a valley on 14th Street between Maine and

Jersey. Seepage and springs abounded on what became Spring Street. Other springs provided good locations for breweries like Dick Brothers at Ninth and York. A large creek at Vermont Street, running west from 24th Street, turned into swampy land as it neared the river. Johnny Creek, flowing into the river at Delaware Street, was adjacent to John Wood's cabin. Ravines at Delaware, Vermont, and Cedar were the only passages from the river through the bluffs. Before Lincoln first visited Quincy, however, several streets had been cut through to the river, many gullies filled in, and much of the timber removed.



Courtesy of Historical Society of Quincy & Adams County

QUINCY IN 1848 was painted by artist Henry Lewis and depicts the town near the time of Lincoln's first visit. Lewis wrote that Quincy presented a poor appearance from the river but would pleasantly surprise the traveler who climbed the bluff. "The houses are uniform, and built in rows; the streets and byways are suitable and well paved." Lewis noted the "view from the top of the hill over forests reaching as far as the eye can see, is beautiful beyond all description."



1842 1843 1844 1845 1846 1847 1848 1849 1850 1851 1852 1853 1854



Courtesy of The New-York Historical Society

Passenger Pigeon

WILDLIFE WAS PLENTIFUL DURING QUINCY'S FORMATIVE

years. Wild turkey and prairie chickens were hunted in town. Swampy waterway havens were populated by Great Blue Herons, Coot, Mallards, Wood Ibises and Sandhill Cranes. Geese and other waterfowl populated "Boston Bay," Quincy's natural harbor. At the end of the Civil War, Professor D. C. Musselman was still able to witness thousands of now extinct wild Passenger Pigeons "in aerial layers eight deep until they shut out the vision of the sun" fly over the campus of the Old German and English College. Carolina Parakeets abundant in Lincoln's time disappeared within fifty years. During spring floods, abundant sucker fish migrating up creeks provided an easy catch to fry or salt down as winter preserves. Illinois has long been known as the "Sucker" state. Deer and other larger game animals were hunted in the surrounding timber.



Courtesy of The New-York Historical Society

Carolina Parakeet

LINCOLN RECUPERATES

LINCOLN WAS EXHAUSTED AFTER THE DEBATE WITH DOUGLAS.

"I tell you, I'm mighty nigh petered out; I reckon I'll have to quit and

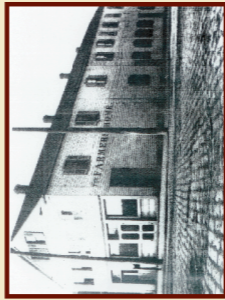
give up the race." That was Lincoln's comment on October 13, 1858; he was in a "state of nervous distress" when the debate ended at 5:30 P. M., almost collapsed, and was taken to a hotel. Local history states that Lincoln left Orville Browning's home and went to the Farmer's Home Hotel at the southeast corner of Ninth and Hampshire, where he rested for an hour or so. George P. Floyd's account indicates

Lincoln went to a hotel room soon after the debate ended. To alleviate his condition, Lincoln was given an old folk remedy, a "rum sweat," by Mrs. Floyd. On hearing the idea, Lincoln quickly stated that he "never drank a drop of liquor" in his life. Mrs. Floyd assured him it was an external treatment. Lincoln was covered with blankets, and the vapors of the rum induced a profuse sweat and a period of restful sleep. Lincoln felt invigorated by the treatment and by hot ginger tea, stating, "*I can jump a five-rail fence right now...*"

1852 1853 1854 1855 1856 1857 1858 1859 1860 1861 1862 1863 1864 1865 1866

LINCOLN SAT IN THE hotel room with his boots

off. David R. Locke, a reporter from Ohio, who later became famous as the author of the Petroleum V. Nasby letters, first met Lincoln in Quincy after the debate. Lincoln gave Locke an interview. Locke stated that "he talked to me without reserve." Lincoln sat in the room with his boots off, saying, "*I like to give my feet a chance to breathe.*" Lincoln had large feet



Courtesy of Quincy Public Library

that tired from standing for long periods.

David Locke was profoundly impressed by Lincoln; and, upon returning to Ohio, he was instrumental in creating headlines about Lincoln and in establishing "*Lincoln for President*" meetings. The first meeting was held just after Election Day with a notice printed in the November 5, 1858, *Commercial Register* of Sandusky, Ohio.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S RUM SWEAT

A VIGOROUS REMEDY THAT HELPED HIM DURING HIS PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN

BY
GEORGE P. FLOYD

"I have not suffered by the South; I have suffered with the South. Their pain has been my pain; their loss has been my loss. If but they knew what I have felt!"



FIRST met Mr. Lincoln at Springfield, Illinois, in February, 1858. He was then practicing law with W. H. Edwards, the late of Henderson, Ky. His office was in a small room in the second story of an old frame building on Sangamon Street. The floor was bare; the furniture consisted of two small desks, a little table, a few old chairs, and a long wooden bench. I remember that large pictures of

Yates, truly, A. LINCOLN
Lincoln's Dangerous Breakdown during the Debates with Douglas
During the summer of 1858 Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas staged the State of Illinois in joint debate. The first meeting

Courtesy of Brewer Library, Quincy University

GEORGE P. FLOYD'S account in McClure's Magazine

(January 1908) narrates the story of Lincoln's "rum sweat" treatment. Local lore provides more Lincoln stories. Lincoln may have had a share at the Hellbender Brother's Barbershop, witnessed by fourteen-year-old Edward Sohm. Edward's uncle was one of the family barbers. Ernest Schierenberg, editor of the Quincy Tribune in 1858, stated that Lincoln was "very dry" after the debate and that they made their way to the old No. 9 Saloon, where Lincoln drank three glasses of beer.

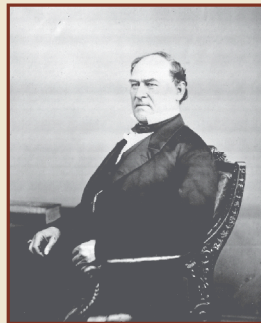


WARM, SINCERE FRIENDSHIP

QUINCY'S ORVILLE HICKMAN BROWNING WAS LINCOLN'S FRIEND, advisor, and confidant. According to historian David Donald, Lincoln

considered Browning an old friend "whom he could absolutely trust. He knew the Illinois senator would never betray a confidence." The two men seemed very dissimilar. Browning was highly educated, a meticulous dresser, and dignified in manner. Lincoln was not. Nonetheless, Lincoln and Browning had much in common. Both were born in Kentucky and moved to Illinois. Both were successful attorneys and served together in the Illinois legislature. Both were in

demand as speakers but quite different in style. Lincoln was folksy while Browning was formal. Both Whigs, after 1854 each participated in the founding of the Illinois Republican Party. They shared a love of literature, and even while in the White House Lincoln read poetry to Browning as a diversion. Browning was a civic leader, one of the best-known Illinois lawyers, and a dedicated promoter of Quincy and his Quincy friends, sometimes relying upon his relationship with the President. During the Civil War, he secured federal funds for a clothing factory in Quincy, employing soldiers' dependents to keep them from poverty.



Courtesy of Historical Society of Quincy & Adams County

LINCOLN SCHOLARS ARE forever indebted to Browning for the diary he kept from 1850 until the time of his death in 1881. The diary provides significant insights into Lincoln's thoughts, moods, and concerns during some of his most challenging moments. Lincoln trusted Browning so thoroughly that he revealed his innermost thoughts to his friend. Browning's diary is published as two volumes within the Illinois Historical Collections series.



1856 1857 1858 1859 1860 1861 1862 1863 1864 1865 1866 1867 1868

BROWNING WAS LINCOLN'S close presidential ally. During the months before his inauguration, Lincoln shared with few others details of the policies he would follow as President. Yet he asked Browning to critique his First Inaugural Address. Valuing Browning's advice, Lincoln wanted the Quincy lawyer to accompany him to Washington, but Browning consented to go only as far as Indianapolis. When Browning was appointed in 1861 to the U.S. Senate



Courtesy of Library of Congress

seat of the deceased Stephen A. Douglas, he became the President's eyes and ears in the Senate. In this role, he performed helpful service to Lincoln in the potentially destructive Cabinet crisis of 1862. Browning was a frequent visitor to the White House, and Lincoln and he openly deliberated many weighty issues. Browning was one of only a few men with whom Lincoln discussed the Emancipation Proclamation before it was announced.

LINCOLN'S CONFIDANTE

QUINCY'S ELIZA CALDWELL BROWNING AND ABRAHAM LINCOLN

first met in 1836. She was a new bride, and he had just

received his law license. When Eliza discovered Lincoln's "great merits," the two established an easy rapport. Their nearly thirty-year friendship began when Eliza's husband, Orville H. Browning, was elected to the Illinois Senate. Lincoln was a state representative. The friendship lasted until Lincoln's death in 1865. It was Lincoln's longest ongoing female relationship. In the early years, Lincoln became "very much attached" to Eliza, and

she remained a part of his private and political world. Eliza, a genteel woman, and Lincoln, a self-educated man, shared intellectual interests, a love of storytelling, emotional trials, and political ideals. Over the years the Brownings, unlike any other friends, visited informally in the Lincoln home. When Lincoln's son, Willie, died in the White House in 1862, Senator Browning and Eliza stayed with Willie's body all night and "received" for the Lincolns in the Green Room before the funeral. The Lincolns would "not consent" to Eliza leaving after the service. She spent a week caring for Tad and Lincoln's grieving wife Mary.



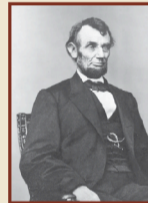
Courtesy of Historical Society of Quincy & Adams County

ELIZA BROWNING welcomed Lincoln to the Browning Mansion after a parade-rally the morning of the Lincoln-Douglas Debate. Known for her great hospitality, Eliza hosted Lincoln during his stay in Quincy. She served lunch for a few guests before the debate, and afterward friends escorted Lincoln to the Square. In the evening he stood between the imposing front columns of the Browning home, shaking hands with throngs of supporters. Lincoln spent the night at the Browning home before leaving for Alton the next day.



1852 1853 1854 1855 1856 1857 1858 1859 1860 1861 1862 1863 1864

IN 1838 LINCOLN WROTE a long, saucy letter to Eliza about an unsuccessful matchmaking agreement. At one point stating, "privately, between you and me," this highly personal letter suggests a clear level of ease between Eliza and Lincoln. In witty fashion Lincoln described the events and ultimate refusal of his marriage proposal to a woman before his relationship with Mary Todd. Eliza believed for more than twenty years that the



Courtesy of the Library of Congress

Abraham Lincoln



Courtesy of Historical Society of Quincy & Adams County

Eliza Browning

amusing letter was one of Lincoln's storytelling inventions. At the White House in 1862 Eliza asked Lincoln about it, learning there was "more truth in that letter" than she had assumed. Lincoln asked her to keep it in confidence. The Mary Owens letter was not published until 1872. Viewed as a letter written in confidence, Eliza kept it private for thirty-four years.

This exhibit was made possible through a generous gift from:
ADAMS COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

LINCOLN CORRESPONDENT

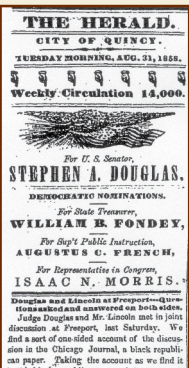


Courtesy of Historical Society of Quincy & Adams County

"... a thicket of hazel brush" described Quincy when Henry Asbury arrived in 1834. Asbury studied law with O. H. Browning and became a law partner with Abraham Jonas. He was elected a justice of the peace and was appointed Register of the Quincy Land Office in 1849 by President Taylor. Asbury wrote Asbury's Justice, a method of procedure for justice courts, and Reminiscences of Quincy, Illinois.

"THE POINTS YOU PROPOSE TO PRESS UPON DOUGLAS, HE WILL BE VERY hard to get up to" (Lincoln letter to Henry Asbury, 1858).

Originally a Kentucky Whig, Henry Asbury was one of the founders of the Republican Party in Illinois along with Abraham Jonas, Archibald Williams, Nehemiah Bushnell, O. H. Browning, and Abraham Lincoln, with whom he was a frequent correspondent. Asbury is credited with framing for Lincoln the four questions posed to Stephen A. Douglas at Freeport during the 1858 Lincoln-Douglas Debates. Asbury believed his most important question was: "Can the people of a United States territory in any lawful way against the wish of any citizen of the United States exclude Slavery from its limits prior to the formation of a state constitution?" During a meeting with Quincy Republican leaders and Horace Greeley in December 1858, Asbury suggested Lincoln as a presidential candidate. As President, Lincoln demonstrated high regard for him by having Jonas and Asbury judge a man arrested for disloyalty. Lincoln also appointed Asbury as Provost-Marshal of the Quincy Military District.



Courtesy of Quincy Public Library

LINCOLN'S POLITICAL strategy was strengthened by the questions Asbury framed for Lincoln to ask Douglas during their Freeport Debate. It was reported that many Republican leaders came to Lincoln the night before the speech and urged him not to put the interrogatories to Douglas, saying, "If you do you can never be senator." "Gentlemen," replied Lincoln, "I am killing larger game; if Douglas answers, he can never be president, and the battle of 1860 is worth a hundred of this." Asbury was proud of his connection with that incident and believed he contributed greatly to the election of President Lincoln. He also prized highly his correspondence with Lincoln. Lincoln valued this association as well, writing in 1860, "It is a little curious, and not wholly [sic] uninteresting to look over those old letters of yours and mine."

Having replied thus to the questions put by Judge Douglas at Ottawa and re-quoted at Freeport, Mr. Lincoln submitted the following questions to Judge Douglas:

1. If the people of Kansas shall, by means entirely unobjectionable in all other respects, adopt a State Constitution, and ask admission into the Union under its flag, how they had the requisite number of inhabitants, according to the English rule—three thousand—would you vote to admit them?
2. Can the people of the United States territory, in any lawful way, exclude the whole of any citizen of the United States, exclude slavery from their limits, prior to the formation of a State Constitution?
3. If the Supreme Court of the United States shall decide that *Nada's* cannot exclude slavery from their limits, are you in favor of acquiescing in, upholding, and following such decision as a rule of political action?
4. Are you in favor of acquiring additional territory, in disregard of how such acquisition may affect the nation on the slavery question?

To all of which, the *Chicago Journal*, a black republican paper, says Judge Douglas responded promptly, as follows—and without taking ten days, as Lincoln did, to frame his replies:

"Yes. He said he believed that when a Territory has population enough for a slave State, he also has enough for a Free State; but believes, nevertheless, that as a general rule, no Territory

Courtesy of Quincy Public Library



1855

1856

1857

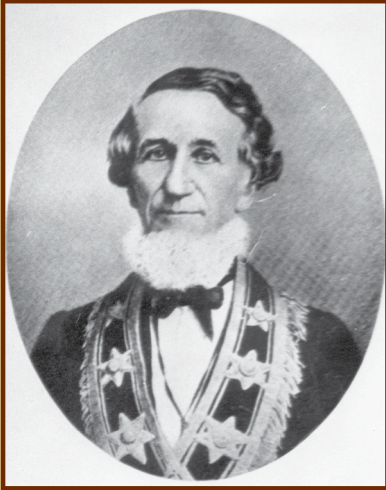
1858

1859

1860

1861

LINCOLN PROMOTER



Courtesy of Quincy Public Library

Abraham Jonas, Quincy's first Jewish settler, arrived in Adams County in 1838. He had been elected Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky and four times to the Kentucky Legislature. Jonas became Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Illinois in 1840 and a representative in the 1842 Illinois General Assembly. Said to aspire to higher office, Jonas organized a Masonic Lodge in Mormon Nauvoo but didn't seek political office.

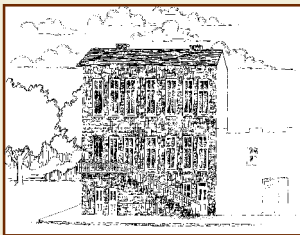
“YOU ARE ONE OF MY MOST VALUED FRIENDS” (LINCOLN LETTER

*to Abraham Jonas, 1860).
Their friendship began in 1843*

in Springfield when Lincoln and Jonas served together in the Illinois House of Representatives. Jonas became an early and ardent supporter of Lincoln in the newly formed Republican Party. He promoted Lincoln's first Quincy visit in 1854 to speak against Stephen A. Douglas' Nebraska bill and to campaign for Archibald Williams. Continuing to promote Lincoln, Jonas in 1858 headed the Republican Arrangements Committee for the Lincoln-Douglas Debate in Quincy and introduced Lincoln for his opening debate address. At the 1860 Republican Convention Jonas worked the floor to help secure Lincoln's nomination. When Jonas learned that William H. Seward's supporters planned to pack Chicago's Wigwam hall, he helped fill the Wigwam with Lincoln backers while Seward's demonstrators were parading in the streets. With an outcry of enthusiasm for Lincoln, delegates abandoned Seward and elected Lincoln on the third ballot. After winning the presidency in November, an appreciative Lincoln soon appointed Jonas Quincy postmaster.

AN EARLY RECOMMENDATION

of Lincoln for President occurred in December 1858. Law partners Jonas and Asbury met in their office on the southeast corner of Fifth and Hampshire with Quincy Republican leaders and Horace Greeley, anti-slavery New York Tribune editor and prominent Republican. Asbury recommended Lincoln as a presidential candidate, later writing with embarrassment “. . . my suggestion fell flat.” After



Courtesy of Historical Society of Quincy & Adams County

moments of silence, Jonas helped: “Gentlemen, there may be more in Asbury's suggestion than any of us now think.” Lincoln said he would rather be senator than president. But Jonas, an organizer, noted “. . . that with proper exertions and judicious selections in June, we shall be able to carry the day and in November proclaim victory to all the world.” And in April 1860, with support for him growing, Lincoln wrote, “The taste is in my mouth a little.”

1855

1856

1857

1858

1859

1860

1861

