

# ALL ABOARD THE HISTORY TRAIN

Discover the history that lies in wait in Central Illinois. From historic downtowns, well-traveled railroad lines and Abraham Lincoln's judicial circuit, Champaign County invites you to take a tour through our lively and storied past.



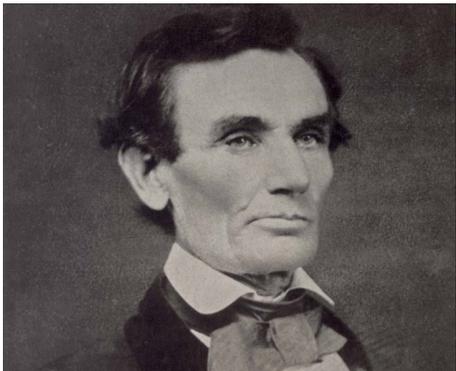
## COURTHOUSE SQUARE

The recently named National Historic District, Courthouse Square, is overflowing with shops, restaurants and galleries ready to explore. Grab lunch at the Brown Bag, known for their hearty sandwiches and homemade pies. Discover the history of the beautiful architecture around the Square as a guide shares Monticello's vibrant history.



## CHAMPAIGN COUNTY HISTORY MUSEUM

Located in the historic Cattle Bank in Downtown Champaign, the recently revitalized Champaign County History Museum invites you to take a step back into time. Explore the goods originally sold at the Cattle Bank, learn about Champaign County's first settlers, and learn from rotating exhibits featuring a moment in our history.



## MUSEUM OF THE GRAND PRAIRIE

Abraham Lincoln spent nearly 20 years of his life practicing law on the 8th judicial circuit, including Champaign County. He unsuccessfully defended the first person accused of murder in Champaign and defended the interests of the Illinois Central Railroad. Learn about his time in Champaign County at the Museum of the Grand Prairie.



## MONTICELLO RAILWAY MUSEUM

Hitch a ride on the Illinois Central Railroad that once ran through a popcorn field in the small town of Monticello. Originally named the Monticello Railroad Company, the Central Division line was chartered in 1861 with construction completed in 1870. After several acquisitions, the Illinois Central Railroad purchased the line for "\$1.00 and other valuable considerations." Through the Monticello Railway Museum, the line and its long history is on display with dozens of locomotives and equipment dating back to a caboose from 1891. All aboard!



Let me take you on this educational and delectable tour of Champaign County's local farms! Contact me today for more information or to book your tour.

**CAITLYN MOONEY** | Sales Director | 217.351.4133 | [leahl@visitchampaigncounty.org](mailto:leahl@visitchampaigncounty.org)